A

KEY

TO THE

PROPHECIES

OF THE

Old and *New Teſtaments:*

SHEWING,

The approaching Invaſion of *England.*
The Deſolation of *Germany, Italy, &c.* by the *Mahometans.*
The Deſtruction of *Rome.*
The Expulſion of the *Mahometan.*
The Extirpation of *Popery* and *Mahometiſme.*
The Reſtoration of the *Jews* to their own Land.
The Rebuilding of the Temple at *Jeruſalem.*
The Fulneſs of the *Gentiles.*
And
The glorious and triumphant Eſtate of *Chriſt's* Church upon Earth during a Thouſand Years.

WRITTEN in the YEAR 1744.

By THOMAS NEWANS,
A Shropſhire *Farmer.*

——*When the Enemy ſhall come in like a Flood, the Spirit of the Lord ſhall lift up a Standard againſt him.* Iſaiah lix. 19.

LONDON:
Printed for the AUTHOR. 1747.

Thomas Newans

AN

ACCOUNT

OF THE

VISION,

AND OF

The TOKENS given in Confirmation of the Truth thereof.

IN the Year 1723, *in the Night, I fell into a Dream, and I ſeemed to be riding on the Road into the County of* Cheſhire: *I then lived in* Shropſhire. *When I was got about eight Miles from Home, my Horſe made a Stop on the Road, and it ſeemed a dark Night, and on a ſudden there ſhone a Light before me on the Ground, which was as bright as when the Sun ſhines at Noon-Day. In the Middle of that bright Circle there ſtood a* Child *in White: It ſpoke, and told me that I muſt go into* Cheſhire, *and I ſhould find a Man with* uncommon Marks *on his* Feet, *which ſhould be a Warning to me to believe; and that the Year after I ſhould have a Cow, that would calve a* Calf *with his* Heart growing out of his Body *in a wonderful Manner, as a Token of what ſhould come to paſs; and that a terrible War would break out in* Europe, *and in four-*

teen

teen Years after the Token it would extend to England.

I ſoon after rode into Cheſhire, *where I found the Man; and a Year after I had a Cow that calved a* Calf *with his* Heart growing out: *There was a Hole in the Breaſt-Bone, and through that Hole there growed a Bladder, as big as a Hog's Bladder, and all the Blood was in the Bladder, and the Heart tumbling in the Blood; which was ſeen by all my Family, who were* ſeven *in Number. So then I rode to* London, *to acquaint the* Miniſters of State *of the approaching Danger.*

Some Years after, it appeared to me in a Dream, like a Woman *in a* clean Dreſs, *and gave me Reaſons why it was in different Appearances. The firſt Reaſon; it appearing like a* Child, *ſhews the Innocence of the* Engliſh *Cauſe: The ſecond was to ſhew, that* Chriſt's Church *ſhall be* cleanſed *of all its* Errors, *and be directed in the true Religion.*

When Moſes, *through* God's *Direction and Goodneſs, had brought the Children of* Iſrael *out of the* Egyptian *Bondage, and had led them into the Wilderneſs,* God *called* Moſes *up into the Mount: And when he was gone,* Aaron *made a* Calf *of the Treaſure that the Children of* Iſrael *had brought out of the Land of* Egypt; *and* God *was wroth with them.*

The Reaſon, which was to encourage me to act in this Affair, is, that as the Heart *of this* Calf *was* out of the Body *from the Time that it knit in the Dam, it was a Token that the* Heart *of* Popery *ſhall be* rent out of the Earth *at this preſent Time: Which may the God of Heaven grant for his own Glory and the World's Good.*

A KEY TO THE PROPHECIES OF THE OLD and NEW TESTAMENTS, &c.

CHAP. I.

EXODUS XX. 11.

FOR in six Days the *Lord* made Heaven and Earth, the Sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh Day: Wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath Day, and hallowed it.

It hath long been the Opinion of the antient Jews, *and many other Divines, that as* God *was six Days in creating all Things, it was a Shadow of the World's continuing* six thousand *Years, and then the Dissolution would be near at hand. But of that Day and Hour knoweth no Man.*

Let us remember, when God brought the Children Israel *out of the* Egyptian *Bondage, and led them into the Wilderness, then* God *called* Moses *up into*

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the Mount: And when the Children of Iſrael *ſaw that* Moſes *was gone up into the Mount, they cauſed* Aaron *to make a golden Calf of the Treaſure they had brought out of the Land of* Egypt; *and they ſaid,* Theſe be thy Gods, O *Iſrael,* which brought thee up out of the Land of *Egypt. Exod.* xxxii. 4.

7. And the *Lord* ſaid unto *Moſes,* Go, get thee down: For thy People, which thou broughteſt out of the Land of *Egypt,* have corrupted themſelves.

8. They have turned aſide quickly out of the Way which I commanded them: They have made them a molten Calf, and have worſhipped it, and have ſacrificed thereunto, and ſaid, Theſe be thy Gods, O *Iſrael,* which have brought thee up out of the Land of *Egypt.*

9. And the *Lord* ſaid unto *Moſes,* I have ſeen this People, and behold, it is a ſtiff-necked People.

10. Now therefore, let me alone, that my Wrath may wax hot againſt them, and that I may conſume them: and I will make of thee a great Nation.

19. And it came to paſs, as ſoon as he came nigh unto the Camp, that he ſaw the Calf, and the Dancing: And *Moſes* Anger waxed hot, and he caſt the Tables out of his Hands, and brake them beneath the Mount.

20. And he took the Calf which they had made, and burnt it in the Fire, and ground it to Powder, and ſtrawed it upon the Water, and made the Children of *Iſrael* drink of it.

27. And he ſaid unto them, Thus ſaith the *Lord God* of *Iſrael,* Put every Man his Sword by his Side, and go in and out from Gate to Gate throughout the Camp, and ſlay every Man his Brother, and every Man his Companion, and every Man his Neighbour.

28. And

28. And the Children of *Levi* did according to the Word of *Moſes*: And there fell of the People that Day about three thouſand Men.

35. And the *Lord* plagued the People, becauſe they made the Calf, which *Aaron* made.

Here it appears, that God's *Wrath was kindled againſt the Children of* Iſrael *for their Sins, eſpecially the great Sin of* Idolatry. *And now the World is grown ſo wicked in all Caſes, eſpecially the Sin of* Idolatry, *that* God *hath cauſed this* terrible War *to extend itſelf into many Parts of the Earth.*

NUMB. xxiii. 51. Speak unto the Children of *Iſrael*, and ſay unto them, When ye are paſſed over *Jordan*, into the Land of *Canaan*;

52. Then ye ſhall drive out all the Inhabitants of the Land from before you, and deſtroy all their Pictures, and deſtroy all their molten Images, and quite pluck down all their high Places.

53. And ye ſhall diſpoſſeſs the Inhabitants of the Land, and dwell therein: For I have given you the Land to poſſeſs it.

Here we ſee God's *Wrath was kindled againſt the People of that Land, as well for delighting in* Pictures *as* Images. *And now the World is going on in that wicked Sin of* Idolatry, *delighting in pompous* Pictures, *and ſpending their precious Time in gazing upon them: Therefore let us beg of God to give us his ſaving Grace to ſtrive againſt all Sin, eſpecially the Sin of* Idolatry, *leſt he ſend a worſe Calamity upon us than War: For here follows the Curſe upon thoſe who make any Images.*

DEUT. xxvii. 15. Curſed be the Man that maketh any graven or molten Image, an Abomination unto the *Lord*, the Work of the Hands of the Craftſman, and putteth it in a ſecret Place: And all the People ſhall anſwer and ſay, Amen.

18. Curſed be he that maketh the Blind to wander out of the Way: And all the People ſhall ſay, Amen.

Here we ſee the Curſe on the Makers of Images: *What muſt be the Sin of Worſhipping them!*

MARK xi. 14. And *Jeſus* anſwered and ſaid unto it, No Man eat Fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And his Diſciples heard it.

20. And in the Morning, as they paſſed by, they ſaw the Fig-tree dried up from the Roots.

Now, if the Fig-tree, which Chriſt *curſed, withered away, what muſt become of thoſe Men, that both make and worſhip* Images *and* Pictures? *For it muſt be judged as great a Sin to worſhip one as the other.*

And here we ſee it is a curſed Thing to cauſe the Blind to wander out of the Way; which the Papiſts *do in a moſt dangerous Manner. For there is but* one *God, and but* one *Way to worſhip him; that is, in Spirit and Truth.*

——— But ye ſhall deſtroy their Altars, break their Images, and cut down their Groves.

For thou ſhalt worſhip no other God: For the *Lord*, whoſe Name is *Jealous*, is a jealous God. Thou ſhalt make thee no molten Gods.

I have, for almoſt twenty Years paſt, travelled to London, *and back again into the Country, near fifty Journies, and every Journey was two hundred and ſixty Miles, to acquaint the Miniſters of State, and ſeveral of the Biſhops and other Divines, with the* Certainty, Danger *and* Manner *of this War. And now I ſhall give a farther Account of what* God *is about to do.*

The Turks *and* other Mahometans *will break into* Germany, *and overcome* Italy, *which will cauſe a great Devaſtation in that Part of the* World: Rome *will be deſtroyed, and never be inhabited again.*

JONAH

JONAH i. 1. Now the Word of the *Lord* came unto *Jonah*, the Son of *Amittai*, ſaying,

2. Ariſe, go to *Nineveh*, that great City, and cry againſt it; for their Wickedneſs is come up before me.

JONAH iii. 1. And the Word of the *Lord* came unto *Jonah* the ſecond Time, ſaying,

2. Ariſe, go unto *Nineveh* that great City, and preach unto it the Preaching that I bid thee.

3. So *Jonah* aroſe and went unto *Nineveh*, according to the Word of the *Lord:* (Now *Nineveh* was an exceeding great City of three Days Journey.)

4. And *Jonah* began to enter into the City a Day's Journey, and he cried, and ſaid, Yet forty Days and *Nineveh* ſhall be overthrown.

5. So the People of *Nineveh* believed *God*, and proclaimed a Faſt, and put on Sackcloth from the greateſt of them even to the leaſt of them.

Thus the People of Nineveh *repented of their Sins, and* God *withdrew his Puniſhment from them at that Time: Therefore, let us all beg of* God *to give us repenting Hearts, for it is high Time; for his Wrath is gone out.*

JUDG. x. 13. Yet ye have forſaken me, and ſerved other Gods: Wherefore I will deliver you no more.

14. Go and cry unto the Gods which ye have choſen; let them deliver you in the Time of your Tribulation.

15. And the Children of *Iſrael* ſaid unto the *Lord*, We have ſinned, do thou unto us whatſoever ſeemeth Good unto thee, deliver us only, we pray thee, this Day.

16. And they put away the ſtrange Gods from among them, and ſerved the *Lord:* And his Soul was grieved for the Miſery of *Iſrael.*

Here

Here we ſee the Goodneſs of God; *for he was grieved for his People. Is not this a great Encouragement to ſtrive to ſerve the true* God, *and in Sincerity and Truth.*

Here again God *encourageth his People that ſerve him truly, as we find in the Prophet,*

Isaiah xli. 10. Fear thou not, for I am with thee: Be not diſmayed, for I am thy God: I I will ſtrengthen thee, yea, I will help thee, yea, I will uphold thee with the right Hand of my Righteouſneſs.

We ſee God's *Anger is poured out againſt the World for Sin, as I have ſaid already; and now I ſhall ſhew what a great* Deliverance *is near at Hand for* God's *choſen People.*

The Popiſh *Armies will invade* England, *and they will be totally routed. And, as I ſaid before, the* Turks *and* other Mahometans *will break into* Europe. *Then the* European *Princes will be in great Diſtreſs, and not know what to do to be rid of that* Monarch *out of* Europe.

And then they will ſend their Miniſters of State to the King of Great Britain, *both for* Counſel *and* Strength, *to drive that* Monarch *out of Europe; but they ſhall have no Aſſiſtance 'till they have thrown off the Yoke of* Idolatry; *which they will conſent to do.*

After which they will agree in moſt Parts of Europe *to raiſe Forces, to drive that* Monarch *out of Europe: And they will rout him, and retake all the Spoil from him which he had taken from them before.*

Soon after the European *Princes will raiſe very great Armies, and follow him into the Land of* Iſrael, *and take from him all his Country, and force him to turn* Chriſtian, *which I ſhall make plain by Scripture; and then all the World ſhall turn* Chriſtians.

Now

Now we muſt aſſure ourſelves, that the Reſtoration of *the* Jews *is at Hand, as I ſhall make plain.*

As I ſaid before, it was the Opinion of the Jews *and other antient Divines, that the World ſhould continue* 6000 *Years, which there is but* 256 *wanting to fulfill that Number. But when* Chriſt *was upon Earth, he ſaid,* Except thoſe Days ſhould be ſhortened, no Fleſh ſhould be ſaved: But for the Elect's Sake, whom he hath choſen, he hath ſhortened the Days. Matth. xxiv. 22, 24.

He ſaith again, that falſe Chriſts and falſe Prophets ſhall ariſe, and ſhall ſhew Signs and Wonders, to ſeduce, if it were poſſible, even the Elect.

Now we muſt conſider who Chriſt *meant by declaring againſt the* falſe Chriſts. *That is the* Pope *and the* Popiſh *Religion; for they take upon them to forgive Sins, which none can do but* Chriſt; *and in pretending to do ſo, they rob* God *of his Honour.*

And the falſe Prophet *is the* Mahometan, *who leads a great Part of the World after him. Now, let us take Care of theſe two great Deceivers; for they will ſmaſh one another in Pieces even now, in a ſmall Space of Time. They are the falſe Religions, which I will make plain.*

Revel. xix. 20. And the Beaſt was taken, and with him the falſe Prophet that wrought Miracles before him, with which he deceiv'd them that had receiv'd the Mark of the Beaſt, and them that worſhipped his Image. Theſe both were caſt alive into a Lake of Fire burning with Brimſtone.

Now, theſe two beaſtly Religions *will be ſilenced in this preſent Time, even within the Space of* ſeven *Years.*

Chriſt *meant, by ſhortening the Days, that great Part of the* Remainder *of the* 6000 *Years ſhall be ſhortened.*

When

When the Chriſtian *Armies ſhall have overcome the* Turks, Chriſt *will bring again the Standard of the* Goſpel *into the Land of* Judea; *as you may ſee in,*

Joel iii. 1. For behold, in thoſe Days and in that Time, when I ſhall bring again the Captivity of *Judah* and *Jeruſalem*,

2. I will alſo gather all Nations, and will bring them down into the Valley of *Jehoſhaphat*, and will plead with them there for my People, and for my Heritage *Iſrael*, whom they have ſcatter'd among the Nations, and parted my Land.

Now I ſhall make it very plain, that God *will unite both* Jews *and* Gentiles *in one Religion, and* Chriſt *ſhall be* King *to them all.*

Ezek. xxxvii. 21. And ſay unto them, Thus ſaith the *Lord* God, Behold, I will take the Children of *Iſrael* from among the Heathen whither they be gone, and will gather them on every Side, and bring them into their own Land.

22. And I will make them one Nation in the Land upon the Mountains of *Iſrael*, and one King ſhall be King to them all: And they ſhall be no more two Nations, neither ſhall they be divided into two Kingdoms any more at all.

It hath been the Opinion of many People, that from the Time that Chriſt *was upon Earth, to the End of the World, there ſhould be no more propheſying. But after the* Kingdom *ſhall be reſtor'd again to* Iſrael, *which is near at Hand,*

Joel ii. 27. And ye ſhall know that I am in the Midſt of *Iſrael*, and that I am the *Lord* your God, and none elſe: And my People ſhall never be aſhamed.

28. And it ſhall come to paſs afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all Fleſh, and your Sons and your Daughters ſhall propheſy, your old Men

Men ſhall dream Dreams, your young Men ſhall ſee Viſions.

29. And alſo upon the Servants, and upon the Handmaids in thoſe Days, will I pour out my Spirit.

Which will be ſoon after the Chriſtians *have overcome the Turks: Then the World ſhall be at Peace, and ſhall continue ſo a Thouſand Years.*

Rev. xx. 1. And I ſaw an Angel come down from Heaven, having the Key of the bottomleſs Pit, and a great Chain in his Hand.

The Angel is Chriſt, *the* Chain *is his* Word. *Then, when* God *ſhall have pour'd out his Spirit upon all Fleſh, he will lay hold on the Dragon, that old Serpent, which is the Devil and Satan, and bind him a Thouſand Years; as may be ſeen in the ſecond Verſe.*

3. And caſt him into the bottomleſs Pit, and ſhut him up, and ſet a Seal upon him, that he ſhould deceive the Nations no more, 'till the thouſand Years ſhould be fulfilled: And after that, he muſt be looſed a little Seaſon.

4. And I ſaw Thrones, and they ſat upon them, and Judgment was given unto them: And I ſaw the Souls of them that were beheaded for the Witneſs of Jeſus, and for the Word of God, and which had not worſhipped the Beaſt, neither his Image, neither had received his Mark upon their Foreheads, or in their Hands; and they lived and reigned with *Chriſt* a thouſand Years.

5. But the reſt of the Dead lived not again until the Thouſand Years were finiſhed. This is the firſt Reſurrection.

6. Bleſſed and holy is he that hath Part in the firſt Reſurrection: On ſuch the ſecond Death hath no Power, but they ſhall be Prieſts of God, and of Chriſt, and ſhall reign with him a Thouſand Years.

7. And when the Thouſand Years are expired, Satan ſhall be looſed out of his Priſon.

It is well known that there hath never been a Thouſand *Years of Peace upon Earth at one Time before. Let all the World rejoice then at this happy Change, which is near at Hand.*

MICAH iv. 3. And he ſhall judge among many People, and rebuke ſtrong Nations afar off, and they ſhall beat their Swords into Plough-Shares, and their Spears into Pruning-Hooks: Nation ſhall not lift up a Sword againſt Nation, neither ſhall they learn War any more.

4. But they ſhall ſit every Man under his Vine, and under his Fig-tree, and none ſhall make them afraid: For the Mouth of the *Lord* of Hoſts hath ſpoken it.

6. In that Day, ſaith the *Lord*, will I aſſemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted;

In that Day, when God ſhall reſtore the Kingdom to Iſrael *again, which is near at Hand, he will aſſemble thoſe People that halt in their Opinions, and are not ſettled in the true Religion.*

7. And I will make her that halted, a Remnant, and her that was caſt far off, a ſtrong Nation; and the *Lord* ſhall reign over them in Mount *Zion*, from henceforth even for ever.

It is plain that Part of the Seven Churches of Aſia, which are fallen away from the true Religion into Idolatry, ſhall be reſtored to the true Religion again.

REVEL. ii. 5. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the firſt Works; or elſe I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy Candleſtick out of his Place, except thou repent.

This is ſpoken chiefly againſt the Popiſh *Religion; for they go a-whoring after other Gods. It is a joy-*

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ful Expreſſion ; for if they repent, God will receive them into his Favour.

7. He that hath an Ear, let him hear what the Spirit ſaith unto the Churches, To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the Tree of Life, which is in the Midſt of the Paradiſe of God.

Rev. xxii. 16. I *Jeſus* have ſent mine Angel to teſtify unto you theſe Things in the Churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of *David*, and the bright and Morning-Star.

17. And the Spirit and the Bride, ſay, Come. And let him that heareth, ſay, Come. And let him that is a-thirſt, come : And whoſoever will, let him take the Water of Life freely.

And I heartily wiſh that all who read this, may take the Water of Life freely.

Malachi i. 11. For from the Riſing of the Sun even unto the Going down of the ſame, my Name ſhall be great among the Gentiles, and in every Place Incenſe ſhall be offered unto my Name, and a pure Offering : For my Name ſhall be great among the Heathen, ſaith the *Lord* of Hoſts.

Malachi iii. 16. Then they that feared the *Lord* ſpake often one to another, and the *Lord* hearkened, and heard it, and a Book of Remembrance was written before him for them that feared the *Lord*, and that thought upon his Name.

17. And they ſhall be mine, ſaith the *Lord* of Hoſts, in that Day when I make up my Jewels, and I will ſpare them as a Man ſpareth his own Son that ſerveth him.

18. Then ſhall ye return and diſcern between the Righteous and the Wicked ; between him that ſerveth *God*, and him that ſerveth him not.

Here we plainly ſee, that at the great and terrible Day of Judgment, God *will make a Separation and a Difference between the Righteous and the Wicked :*

Therefore, let every one that heareth this Warning, take Care before it be too late.

Rev. iii. 12. Him that overcometh will I make a Pillar in the Temple of my *God*, and he ſhall go no more out: And I will write upon him the Name of my *God*, and the Name of the City of my *God*, which is *New Jeruſalem*, which cometh down out of Heaven from my *God*: And I will write upon him my new Name.

13. He that hath an Ear, let him hear what the Spirit ſaith unto the Churches.

Now, ſoon after the Reſtoration of the Goſpel into the Land of Iſrael *again*, God *will cauſe his holy Scripture to be clearly revealed, and all the* Errors *caſt out of all the Churches in the World, eſpecially the* Popiſh *Religion and the* Mahometans. *Now let all Religions take Warning; for this is a Warning to all the World, as well as to thoſe two Religions.*

Rev. xvii. 1. And there came one of the ſeven Angels which had the ſeven Vials, and talked with me, ſaying unto me, Come hither, I will ſhew unto thee the Judgment of the great Whore, that ſitteth upon many Waters:

4. And the Woman was arrayed in purple and ſcarlet Colour, and decked with Gold, and precious Stones, and Pearls, having a golden Cup in her Hand, full of Abominations and Filthineſs of her Fornication.

5. And upon her Forehead was a Name written, *Myſtery*, Babylon *the great, the Mother of Harlots, and Abominations of the Earth.*

6. And I ſaw the Woman drunken with the Blood of the Saints, and with the Blood of the Martyrs of *Jeſus*: And when I ſaw her, I wondered with great Admiration.

By the Woman is meant the City of Rome *and the* Romiſh *Religion: For the* Romans, *ſoon after* Chriſt,

Chriſt, *fell upon* Jeruſalem *and deſtroyed it*; *and ſince that Time they have put many of the Saints and Martyrs to Death.*

Rev. xviii. 1. And after theſe Things I ſaw another Angel come down from Heaven, having great Power; and the Earth was lightened with his Glory.

2. And he cried mightily with a ſtrong Voice, ſaying, *Babylon* the Great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the Habitation of Devils, and the Hold of every foul Spirit, and a Cage of every unclean and hateful Bird.

Now Chriſt *will ſend down his thundering Voice of War againſt the City of* Rome *and the* Romiſh *Religion.*

5. For her Sins have reached unto Heaven, and *God* hath remembered her Iniquities.

8. Therefore ſhall her Plagues come in one Day, Death, and Mourning, and Famine; and ſhe ſhall be utterly burnt with Fire: For ſtrong is the *Lord God* who judgeth her.

All this is near at Hand, even within the Space of ſeven *Years.*

Ezekiel xliv. 7. In that ye have brought into my Sanctuary Strangers uncircumciſed in Heart, and uncircumciſed in Fleſh, to be in my Sanctuary to pollute it, even my Houſe, when ye offer my Bread, the Fat and the Blood, and they have broken my Covenant, becauſe of all your Abominations.

Here Ezekiel *ſhews plainly, that the* Popiſh *Religion doth bring into their Aſſemblies People uncircumciſed both in Heart and Fleſh, and ſo they delude the People; for they offer (in the Prophet's Senſe) their Bread, the Fat and the Blood, to their falſe Gods; and ſo they have broken the Covenant of the* Lord *with their Abominations.*

9. Thus

9. Thus ſaith the *Lord God*, No Stranger uncircumciſed in Heart, nor uncircumciſed in Fleſh, ſhall enter into my Sanctuary, of any Stranger that is among the Children of *Iſrael.*

Now, thoſe Popiſh *Prieſts that go aſtray after their* Idols, *they ſhall bear their Iniquity.*

12. Becauſe they miniſtred unto them before their Idols, and cauſed the Houſe of *Iſrael* to fall into Iniquity; therefore have I lift up mine Hand againſt them, ſaith the *Lord* God, and they ſhall bear their Iniquity.

Therefore the Popiſh *Prieſts go on in a dangerous Manner; and no doubt but this will be laid againſt them.*

CHAPTER II.

JOHN I. 1.

IN the Beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2. The ſame was in the Beginning with God.

Now, as in ſix *Days the* Lord, *by his Word, created all Things, and reſted the ſeventh Day, it is the Opinion of the Learned, that the World ſhould continue* ſix thouſand *Years, which there is but* 256 *wanting to compleat that Number.*

Now the Meaning of the Shortening *the Days, is the Days of* Sinning. *For* Chriſt *ſaid,*

MATTH. xxiv. 22. And except thoſe Days ſhould be ſhortened, there ſhould no Fleſh be ſaved: But for the Elect's Sake, thoſe Days ſhall be ſhortened.

For now the World is got to ſuch a Height of Sin, that we may hope the Reſtoration is near at Hand: I mean the reſtoring of the Standard of the Goſpel

into

into Jeruſalem *again. For* Chriſt *told the* Jews, as you may ſee in,

MATTH. xxi. 43. Therefore ſay I unto you, The Kingdom of God ſhall be taken from you, and given to a Nation bringing forth the Fruits thereof.

Now I ſhall make it plain what Nation is meant: It is GREAT BRITAIN. *The Meaning of the Kingdom of God is the* Goſpel. *For ſoon after the Death of* Chriſt, *the* Romans *fell upon* Jeruſalem, *and made it a Deſolation, and the* Jews *were ſcattered all over the Earth, and the Scripture began to flouriſh in* England.

REV. xi. 7. And when they ſhall have finiſhed their Teſtimony, the Beaſt that aſcendeth out of the bottomleſs Pit, ſhall make War againſt them, and ſhall overcome them, and kill them.

The Beaſt that aſcendeth out of the bottomleſs Pit, is the Popiſh *Religion. Theſe* two Witneſſes *are the* Old *and the* New Teſtament, *the two Prophets that tormented the* Jews *after* Chriſt.

8. And their dead Bodies ſhall lye in the Street of the great City, which ſpiritually is called *Sodom* and *Egypt*, where alſo our *Lord* was crucified.

9. And they of the People, and Kindreds, and Tongues, and Nations, ſhall ſee their dead Bodies, three Days and an Half, and ſhall not ſuffer their dead Bodies to be put in Graves.

10. And they that dwell upon the Earth ſhall rejoice over them, and make merry, and ſhall ſend Gifts one to another; becauſe theſe two Prophets tormented them that dwelt on the Earth.

11. And after three Days and an Half, the Spirit of Life from God entered into them: And they ſtood upon their Feet, and great Fear fell upon them which ſaw them.

Rev. xii. 1. And there appeared a great Wonder in Heaven, a Woman clothed with the Sun, and the Moon under her Feet, and upon her Head a Crown of twelve Stars.

2. And ſhe being with Child, cried, travailing in Birth, and pained to be delivered.

3. And there appeared another Wonder in Heaven, and behold, a great red Dragon, having ſeven Heads and ten Horns, and ſeven Crowns upon his Heads.

That is the Romiſh *Religion*; *for at* Rome *there are ſeven Moudtains. The* Woman *that travailed, being pained to be delivered, is* Chriſt's *choſen People*; *I mean the* Proteſtant *Religion, which will overthrow the* Beaſt, *that is the* Pope, *and the* Popiſh *Religion.*

7. And there was War in Heaven; *Michael* and his Angels fought againſt the Dragon, and the Dragon fought and his Angels:

8. And prevailed not, neither was their Place found any more in Heaven.

Prov. xvi. 4. The *Lord* hath made all Things for himſelf: Yea, even the Wicked for the Day of Evil.

As you may find by the terrible Threatnings God hath thrown out againſt Idolaters.

Malachi iv. 5. Behold, I will ſend you *Elijah* the Prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful Day of the *Lord.*

6. And he ſhall turn the Heart of the Fathers to the Children, and the Heart of the Children to their Fathers, leſt I come and ſmite the Earth with a Curſe.

Here God hath promiſed Mercy to all true penitent Sinners, and ſent theſe true Tokens of Encouragement, that ſoon after this happy Change, which is near at Hand, he will pour down his Spirit upon all Fleſh.

Fleſh. But we muſt worſhip him only, and not Idols nor graven Images.

Levit. xxvi. 1. Ye ſhall make no Idols nor graven Image, neither rear you up a ſtanding Image, neither ſhall ye ſet up any Image of Stone in your Land, to bow down unto it: For I am the Lord your God.

30. And I will deſtroy your high Places, and cut down your Images, and caſt your Carcaſſes upon the Carcaſſes of your Idols, and my Soul ſhall abhor you.

This ſhews the Wrath of God againſt Idolatry: *Therefore, we may aſſure ourſelves, that thoſe who follow vain Gods, will be puniſhed, except they repent.*

Mark xiii. 31. Heaven and Earth ſhall paſs away: But my Words ſhall not paſs away.

Gen. xiv. 18. And *Melchizedeck* King of *Salem* brought forth Bread and Wine: And he was the Prieſt of the moſt high God.

19. And he bleſt him, and ſaid, Bleſſed be *Abram* of the moſt high God, Poſſeſſor of Heaven and Earth.

Now we muſt conſider who this Man was, and for what Reaſon he bleſt him. This Prieſt was Chriſt, *not then come in the Fleſh; and he bleſt him, becauſe he relieved his oppreſſed Brother* Lot *from wicked idolatrous Princes. And ſo will God bleſs thoſe that fight his Battles againſt all the wicked* Popiſh *Princes in the World: For God hath pronounced a Curſe againſt the Worſhippers of* Images *and* Pictures.

I ſhall prove who this Prieſt was, by St. Paul's *Words:*

Hebr. vii. 1. For this *Melchizedeck* King of *Salem*, Prieſt of the moſt high God, who met *Abraham* returning from the Slaughter of the Kings, and bleſſed him;

2. To whom alſo *Abraham* gave a Tenth Part of all: Firſt being by Interpretation King of

Righteouſneſs, and after that alſo King of *Salem*, which is King of Peace;

3. Without Father, without Mother, without Deſcent, having neither Beginning of Days, nor End of Life; but made like unto the Son of God, abideth a Prieſt continually.

And he is able to ſave every one to the uttermoſt, that cometh unto him with a repenting Heart.

MALACHI IV. 2. Bnt unto you that fear my Name, ſhall the Sun of Righteouſneſs ariſe with Healing in his Wings; and ye ſhall go forth and grow up as Calves of the Stall.

3. And ye ſhall tread down the Wicked; for they ſhall be Aſhes under the Soles of your Feet, in the Day that I ſhall do this, ſaith the *Lord* of Hoſts.

This is great Encouragement to Chriſt*'s Church and choſen People; I mean the* Proteſtant *Church: And though now it ſeems to be in Bondage, it will overcome all its Troubles, and flouriſh again in a ſmall Space of Years.*

ISAIAH X. 10. As my Hand hath found the Kingdoms of the Idols, and whoſe graven Images did excel them of *Jeruſalem*, and of *Samaria:*

11. Shall I not, as I have done unto *Samaria* and her Idols, ſo do to *Jeruſalem* and her Idols?

It is now very plain, that in all Ages God did abhor the worſhipping of Idols.

ISAIAH XI. 11. And it ſhall come to paſs in that Day, that the *Lord* ſhall ſet his Hand again the *ſecond* Time, to recover the Remnant of his People which ſhall be left, from *Aſſyria*, and from *Egypt*, and from *Pathros*, and from *Cuſh*, and from *Elam*, and from *Shinar*, and from *Hamath*, and from the Iſlands of the Sea.

12. And he ſhall ſet up an Enſign for the Nations, and ſhall aſſemble the Outcaſts of *Iſrael*, and

and gather together the Diſperſed of *Judah*, from the four Corners of the Earth.

It is meant that God ſhall ſet up an Enſign, which is Chriſt, *who ſhall at Time reſtore the Kingdom to* Iſrael *again.*

Acts ii. 16. But this is that which was ſpoken by the Prophet *Joel*,

17. And it ſhall come to paſs in the laſt Days (ſaith God) I will pour out of my Spirit upon all Fleſh: And your Sons and your Daughters ſhall propheſie, and your young Men ſhall ſee Viſions, and your old Men ſhall dream Dreams:

18. And on my Servants, and on my Handmaidens, I will pour out in thoſe Days of my Spirit, and they ſhall propheſie.

Isaiah xii. 1. And in that Day thou ſhalt ſay, O *Lord*, I will praiſe thee: Though thou waſt angry with me, thine Anger is turned away, and thou comfortedſt me.

So will he comfort all thoſe that call on him with a perfect Heart and a willing Mind, in Sincerity and Truth.

2. Behold, God is my Salvation: I will truſt, and not be afraid; for the Lord *Jehovah* is my Strength and my Song, he alſo is become my Salvation.

3. Therefore with Joy ſhall ye draw Water out of the Wells of Salvation.

4. And in that Day ſhall ye ſay, Praiſe the *Lord*, call upon his Name, declare his Doings among the People, make mention that his Name is exalted.

Here follows the Advice that is given us. If we obey not his Teſtimonies, he will puniſh all thoſe Sinners with his heavy Hand, except they repent.

2 Chron. xxx. 8. Now be ye not ſtiff-necked as your Fathers were, but yield yourſelves unto the *Lord*, and enter into his Sanctuary, which he

hath ſanctified for ever: And ſerve the *Lord* your God, that the Fierceneſs of his Wrath may turn away from you.

14. And they aroſe and took away the Altars that were in *Jeruſalem*, and all the Altars for Incenſe took they away, and caſt them into the Brook *Kidron*.

20. And the *Lord* hearkened to *Hezekiah*, and healed the People.

27. Then the Prieſts the *Levites* aroſe, and bleſſed the People: And their Voice was heard, and their Prayer came up to his holy Dwelling-Place, even unto Heaven.

2 CHRON. xxxi. 1. Now when all this was finiſhed, all *Iſrael* that were preſent, went out to the Cities of *Judah*, and brake the Images in Pieces, and cut down the Groves, and threw down the high Places and the Altars out of all *Judah* and *Benjamin*, in *Ephraim* alſo and *Manaſſeh*, until they had utterly deſtroyed them all. Then all the Children of *Iſrael* returned every Man to his Poſſeſſion into their own Cities.

Here we find that Hezekiah *performed the Commandment of the* Lord; *and God bleſſed him for deſtroying* Idolatry, *as you may ſee in*

2 CHRON. xxxii. *Where you may alſo ſee* Hezekiah *encourageth his People to truſt in God for Help: And he ſent him Help from Heaven; and he ſpoke comfortably to them, ſaying,*

7. Be ſtrong and courageous, be not afraid nor diſmayed for the King of *Aſſyria*, nor for all the Multitude that is with him: For there be more with us than with him.

8. With him is an Arm of Fleſh, but with us is the *Lord* our God, to help us, and to fight our Battles. And the People reſted themſelves upon the Words of *Hezekiah* King of *Judah*.

20. And

20. And for this Cauſe *Hezekiah* the King, and the Prophet *Iſaiah* the Son of *Amoz*, prayed and cried to Heaven.

21. And the *Lord* ſent an Angel which cut off all the mighty Men of Valour, and the Leaders and Captains in the Camp of the King of *Aſſyria*: So he returned with Shame of Face unto his own Land. And when he was come into the Houſe of his God, they that came forth of his own Bowels, ſlew him there with the Sword.

22. Thus the *Lord* ſaved *Hezekiah*, and the Inhabitants of *Jeruſalem* from the Hand of *Sennacherib* the King of *Aſſyria*, and from the Hand of all other, and guided them on every Side.

Thus we ſee, that when the King and his People humbled themſelves, and prayed unto the Lord, *he delivered them from all their Enemies.*

25. But *Hezekiah* render'd not again according to the Benefit done unto him: For his Heart was lifted up; therefore there was Wrath upon him, and upon *Judah* and *Jeruſalem*.

26. Notwithſtanding, *Hezekiah* humbled himſelf for the Pride of his Heart (both he and the Inhabitants of *Jeruſalem*) ſo that the Wrath of the *Lord* came not upon them in the Days of *Hezekiah*.

Here we find, that though their Deliverance was in a wonderful Manner, yet Pride *overcame his Heart, as if he had merited his Deliverance: But it was not ſo; for God did it for his own Name's Sake, and out of Pity to his People.*

Joel iii. 18. And it ſhall come to paſs in that Day, that the Mountains ſhall drop down new Wine, and the Hills ſhall flow with Milk, and all the Rivers of *Judah* ſhall flow with Waters, and a Fountain ſhall come forth of the Houſe of the *Lord*, and ſhall water the Valley of *Shittim*.

20. But *Judah* ſhall dwell for ever, and *Jeruſalem* from Generation to Generation.

21. For I will cleanſe their Blood that I have not cleanſed, for the *Lord* dwelleth in *Zion.*

Amos iii. 7. Surely, the *Lord* will do nothing, but he revealeth his Secret unto his Servants the Prophets.

8. The Lion hath roar'd, who will not fear? The *Lord God* hath ſpoken, who can but propheſy?

Micah v. 13. Thy graven Images alſo will I cut off, and thy ſtanding Images out of the Midſt of thee, and thou ſhalt no more worſhip the Work of thine Hands.

14. And I will pluck up thy Groves out of the Midſt of thee: So will I deſtroy thy Cities.

Thus you have heard what God hath ſpoken by the Mouth of his Prophet Micah, *as a Warning to the People for their* Idolatry; *and I heartily wiſh every one that readeth this, may take Warning to forſake all* idolatrous *Worſhip, for that is an Abomination to the Lord, leſt he ſhould pour out his Wrath upon thoſe that diſobey his Warning.*

Zeph. iii. 19. Behold, at that Time I will undo all that afflict thee, and I will ſave her that halteth, and gather her that was driven out, and I will get them Praiſe and Fame in every Land, where they have been put to Shame.

20. At that Time will I bring you again, even in the Time that I gather you: For I will make you a Name and a Praiſe among all the People of the Earth, when I turn back your Captivity before your Eyes, ſaith the *Lord.*

Here we have the Promiſe of reſtoring the Jews *to the Land of* Canaan *again, by God's own Mouth, and the Joy there will be in all the Earth at that Time. People will flock from all Parts of the World to* Jeruſalem. *For as God promis'd* Moſes *he would*

give

give them a Land flowing with Milk and Honey, ſo he perform'd his Promiſe to them: It flow'd with all Manner of rich Proviſions for the Uſe of Man, more than any Part of the World ever did, for Quantity and Goodneſs.

Now, after the Reſtoration *ſhall be accompliſhed, which is near at hand, God will cauſe his holy Goſpel to flow in a plentiful Manner in* Jeruſalem. *Then ſhall all the World rejoice.*

Ezek. xxxvi. 26. A new Heart alſo will I give you, and a new Spirit will I put within you, and I will take away the ſtony Heart out of your Fleſh, and I will give you an Heart of Fleſh.

27. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cauſe you to walk in my Statutes, and ye ſhall keep my Judgments, and do them.

28. And ye ſhall dwell in the Land that I gave to your Fathers, and ye ſhall be my People, and I will be your God.

29. And I will alſo ſave you from all your Uncleanneſſes, and I will call for the Corn, and will encreaſe it, and lay no Famine upon you.

30. And I will multiply the Fruit of the Tree, and the Encreaſe of the Field, that ye ſhall receive no more Reproach of Famine among the Heathen.

31. Then ſhall ye remember your own evil Ways, and your Doings that were not good, and ſhall lothe yourſelves in your own Sight, for your Iniquities, and for your Abominations.

32. Not for your Sakes do I this, ſaith the Lord God, be it known unto you: Be aſhamed and confounded for your own Ways, O Houſe of *Iſrael.*

Here we ſee the great Goodneſs of God, in the great Deliverance he is about to ſhew to the Jews, *and not to the* Jews only, *but unto all the World that will repent, and follow his holy Scripture.*

Rev.

Rev. i. 18. I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the Keys of Hell and of Death.

Here it is plain that Chriſt *gave St.* John *both Wiſdom and Power to write his Revelation.*

Rev. xvii. 2. With whom the Kings of the Earth have committed Fornication, and the Inhabiters of the Earth have been made drunk with the Wine of her Fornication.

The Kings *of the Earth have gone a Whoring after other Gods; that is the* Popiſh *Religion; and they have committed Fornication with her.*

The Woman *mention'd in this ſame Chapter, is the City of* Rome; *for their Churches are deck'd in a moſt pompous Manner: But her Wickedneſs is great, for the* Popiſh *Religion has been the* bloodieſt *in the whole World; and God will give them Blood to drink; for* Rome *will be deſtroy'd very ſoon: And then the* Popiſh *Religion will never be follow'd again in any Part of the World; as you may find in*

Micah iv. 1. But in the laſt Days it ſhall come to paſs, that the Mountain of the Houſe of the *Lord* ſhall be eſtabliſh'd in the Top of the Mountains, and it ſhall be exalted above the Hills, and People ſhall flow unto it.

There are three Regions of Bliſs. The lower *Region, thoſe Souls that die in the Faith and Fear of* Chriſt, *are immediately convey'd thither after their Departure out of this Life. The* ſecond *Region is that which* God *will come down to from the* higheſt *Heaven, to judge the World in Righteouſneſs; as you may ſee in,*

1 Thess. iv. 14. For if we believe that Jeſus died, and roſe again; even ſo them alſo which ſleep in Jeſus, will God bring with him.

Rev. xx. 4. And I ſaw Thrones, and they ſat upon them, and Judgment was given unto them: And I ſaw the Souls of them that were beheaded

for

for the Witneſs of Jeſus, and for the Word of God, and which had not worſhipped the Beaſt, neither his Image, neither had receiv'd his Mark upon their Foreheads, or in their Hands; and they liv'd and reign'd with Chriſt a thouſand Years.

5. But the reſt of the Dead lived not again until the thouſand Years were finiſh'd. This is the firſt Reſurrection.

6. Bleſſed and holy is he that hath part in the firſt Reſurrection: On ſuch the ſecond Death hath no Power, but they ſhall be Prieſts of God and of Chriſt, and ſhall reign with him a thouſand Years.

That is, thoſe his Diſciples that liv'd and ſuffer'd with him upon Earth, will be thoſe that ſhall come down to judge the World; for they are them that are to riſe as ſoon as the Devil *is bound in Hell; that is the* firſt Reſurrection, *which will be as ſoon as the* Chriſtians *have overcome the* Turks.

1 Thess. iv. 15. For this we ſay unto you by the Word of the *Lord*, that we which are alive, and remain unto the Coming of the *Lord*, ſhall ſhall not prevent them which are aſleep.

16. For the *Lord* himſelf ſhall deſcend from Heaven with a Shout, with the Voice of the Archangel, and with the Trump of God: And the Dead in *Chriſt* ſhall riſe firſt:

17. Then we which are alive and remain ſhall be caught up together with them in the Clouds, to meet the *Lord* in the Air: And ſo ſhall we ever be with the *Lord*.

18. Wherefore, comfort one another with theſe Words.

There St. Paul *ſhews, that at the* laſt *and* general Reſurrection, *he and the reſt of the ſanctified Souls ſhall riſe firſt; neither can their riſing firſt prevent all the reſt of the Dead from riſing; for all muſt come to Judgment.*

1 Thessal. v. 19. Quench not the Spirit.
20. Despise not Prophesyings.
21. Prove all Things: Hold fast that which is good.

CHAPTER III.

IN *the Book of* Genesis, *Chap.* vi. *we find these Words:*

9. These are the Generations of *Noah: Noah* was a just Man, and perfect in his Generations; and *Noah* walked with God.

11. The Earth also was corrupt before God; and the Earth was fill'd with Violence.

Here we see God's Wrath was kindled against the Old *World for Sin, to that Degree, that he destroy'd all Flesh, except* Noah *and his Family: And now we see the World so corrupt, that except it repent, we may expect some terrible Punishment.*

12. And God look'd upon the Earth, and behold, it was corrupt: For all Flesh had corrupted his Way upon the Earth.

13. And God said unto *Noah*, the End of all Flesh is come before me; for the Earth is filled with Violence through them: And behold, I will destroy them with the Earth.

And Noah *was a hundred Years in building the Ark, and all the while the Ark was building, the People declar'd him to be mad: But he was found wise, for he serv'd God; and they were mad, for they were all destroy'd, and he was sav'd.*

Here we see the Wrath of God was pour'd out upon the Old *World, for their great Sin and Iniquity: And now the Earth is fill'd with Violence again, so that he has sent a terrible War into many Parts of the Earth.*

Judg. ii. 1. And an Angel of the *Lord* came up from *Gilgal* to *Bochim*, and ſaid, I made you to go up out of *Egypt*, and have brought you unto the Land which I ſware unto your Fathers, and I ſaid, I will never break my Covenant with you.

2. And ye ſhall make no League with the Inhabitants of this Land, you ſhall throw down their Altars: But ye have not obeyed my Voice; why have ye done this?

3. Wherefore I alſo ſaid, I will not drive them out from before you: But they ſhall be as Thorns in your Sides, and their Gods ſhall be a Snare unto you.

4. And it came to paſs, when the Angel of the *Lord* ſpake theſe Words unto all the Children of *Iſrael*, that the People lift up their Voice, and wept.

Here we ſee that the People repented at that Time; but ſoon after they rebelled again, when Joſhua *was dead.*

12. And they forſook the *Lord* God of their Fathers, which brought them out of the Land of *Egypt*, and follow'd other Gods, of the Gods of the People that were round about them, and bowed themſelves unto them, and provoked the *Lord* to Anger.

13. And they forſook the *Lord*, and ſerv'd *Baal* and *Aſhtaroth*.

14. And the Anger of the *Lord* was hot againſt *Iſrael*, and he deliver'd them into the Hands of Spoilers that ſpoiled them, and he ſold them into the Hands of their Enemies round about, ſo that they could not any longer ſtand before their Enemies.

15. Whitherſoever they went out, the Hand of the *Lord* was againſt them for Evil, as the *Lord*

had ſaid, and as the *Lord* had ſworn unto them: And they were greatly diſtreſſed.

Now we may aſſure ourſelves, that God's *Wrath is kindled againſt the whole World, for the great Sin of* Idolatry *above all other Sins.*

Isaiah xliv. 6. Thus ſaith the *Lord* the King of *Iſrael*, and his Redeemer the *Lord* of Hoſts, I am the firſt, and I am the laſt, and beſides me there is no God.

9. They that make a graven Image are all of them Vanity, and their delectable Things ſhall not profit, and they are their own Witneſſes, they ſee not, nor know; that they may be aſhamed.

Isaiah xlv. 7. I form the Light, and create Darkneſs: I make Peace and create Evil: I the *Lord* do all theſe Things.

16. They ſhall be aſham'd, and alſo confounded all of them: They ſhall go to Confuſion together that are Makers of Idols.

20. Aſſemble yourſelves and come; draw near together, ye that are eſcaped of the Nations: They have no Knowledge that ſet up the Wood of their graven Image, and pray unto a God that cannot ſave.

22. Look unto me, and be ye ſaved, all the Ends of the Earth: For I am God, and there is none elſe.

Here it is very plain, that God *invites the greateſt* Idolaters *to come unto him for Help in all Diſtreſſes, and plainly ſhews them there is no God that can deliver them beſides him.*

Let us hear Iſaiah *again*, Chap. xxxiv. 1. Come near, ye Nations, to hear, and hearken, ye People: Let the Earth hear, and all that is therein; the World, and all Things that come forth of it.

2. For the Indignation of the *Lord* is upon all Nations, and his Fury upon all their Armies: He hath

hath utterly deſtroy'd them, he hath deliver'd them to the Slaughter.

6. The Sword of the *Lord* is filled with Blood, it is made fat with Fatneſs, and with the Blood of Lambs and Goats, with the Fat of the Kidneys of Rams: For the *Lord* hath a Sacrifice in *Bozrah*, and a great Slaughter in the Land of *Idumea*.

8. For it is the Day of the *Lord*'s Vengeance, and the Year of Recompences for the Controverſie of *Zion*.

Here Iſaiah *plainly ſhews, that this* War *is for the Controverſie of* Zion.

Joel ii. 32. And it ſhall come to paſs that whoſoever ſhall call on the Name of the *Lord*, ſhall be deliver'd: For in Mount *Zion* and in *Jeruſalem* ſhall be Deliverance, as the *Lord* hath ſaid, and in the Remnant whom the *Lord* ſhall call.

Jere. li. 2. And I will ſend unto *Babylon*, Fanners, that ſhall fan her, and ſhall empty her Land: For in the Day of Trouble they ſhall be againſt her round about.

7. *Babylon* hath been a Golden Cup in the *Lord*'s Hand, that made all the Earth drunken: The Nations have drunken of her Wine, therefore the Nations are mad.

8. *Babylon* is ſuddenly fallen and deſtroyed: Howl for her, take Balm for her Pain, if ſo be ſhe may be healed.

9. We would have healed *Babylon*, but ſhe is not healed: Forſake her, and let us go every one into his own Country: For her Judgment reacheth unto Heaven, and is lifted up even to the Skies.

10. The *Lord* hath brought forth our Righteouſneſs: Come and let us declare in *Zion* the Work of the *Lord* our God.

11. Make

11. Make bright the Arrows: Gather the Shields: The *Lord* hath raiſed up the Spirit of the Kings of the *Medes:* For his Device is againſt *Babylon*, to deſtroy it; becauſe it is the Vengeance of the *Lord*, the Vengeance of his Temple.

12. Set up the Standard upon the Walls of *Babylon*, make the Watch ſtrong, ſet up the Watchmen, prepare the Ambuſhes: For the *Lord* hath both deviſed and done that which he ſpake againſt the Inhabitants of *Babylon*.

13. O thou that dwelleſt upon many Waters, abundant in Treaſures, thine End is come, and the Meaſure of thy Covetouſneſs.

14. The *Lord* of Hoſts hath ſworn by himſelf, ſaying, ſurely I will fill thee with Men, as with Caterpillers; and they ſhall lift up a Shout againſt thee.

Here the Lord *declares the Deſtruction of* Babylon, *by which is meant* Rome *and the Worſhippers of* Images. *The* Popiſh *Religion ſhall be utterly caſt down and ſilenced in a ſmall Space of Years.*

Let us hear Jeremiah *again, in the ſame Chapter.*

47. Therefore behold, the Days come, that I will do Judgment upon the graven Images of *Babylon*, and her whole Land ſhall be confounded, and all her Slain ſhall fall in the midſt of her.

48. Then the Heaven and the Earth, and all that is therein, ſhall ſing for *Babylon:* For the Spoilers ſhall come unto her from the North, ſaith the *Lord*.

49. As *Babylon* hath cauſed the Slain of *Iſrael* to fall; So at *Babylon* ſhall fall the Slain of all the Earth.

50. Ye that have eſcaped the Sword, go away, ſtand not ſtill: Remember the *Lord* afar off, and let *Jeruſalem* come into your Mind.

52. Where-

52. Wherefore behold, the Days come, ſaith the *Lord*, that I will do Judgment upon her graven Images, and through all her Land the Wounded ſhall groan.

53. Though *Babylon* ſhould mount up to Heaven, and though ſhe ſhould fortify the Height of her Strength, yet from me ſhall Spoilers come unto her, ſaith the *Lord*.

Here we plainly ſee what Wrath God *hath pour'd out againſt* Idolaters.

Revr. iii. 6. He that hath an Ear, let him hear what the Spirit ſaith unto the Churches.

7. And to the Angel of the Church in *Philadelphia*, write, Theſe Things ſaith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the Key of *David*, he that openeth, and no Man ſhutteth; and ſhutteth, and no Man openeth.

8. I know thy Works: Behold, I have ſet before thee an open Door, and no Man can ſhut it: For thou haſt a little Strength, and haſt kept my Word, and haſt not denied my Name.

9. Behold, I will make them of the Synagogue of *Satan* (which ſay they are *Jews*, and are not, but do lie) behold, I will make them to come and worſhip before thy Feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

Here St. John *gives a pleaſant Account of the Church in Philadelphia. And I am very well aſſur'd, that the* Proteſtant *Church is the neareſt to it in the World: And I am alſo very well aſſured that all the Churches in the World muſt in a ſmall Space of Time follow her Worſhip.*

Isaiah xlix. 15. Can a Woman forget her ſucking Child, that ſhe ſhould not have Compaſſion on the Son of her Womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

Isaiah lv. 7. Let the Wicked forſake his Way, and the unrighteous Man his Thoughts: And

And let him return unto the *Lord*, and he will have Mercy upon him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Here we plainly ſee the great and tender Goodneſs of God *to all penitent Sinners, that come unto him for Mercy; nay, more tender than a Woman of her ſucking Child.*

Reve. ii. 18. And unto the Angel of the Church in *Thyatira*, write, Theſe Things ſaith the Son of God, who hath his Eyes like unto a Flame of Fire, and his Feet are like fine Braſs;

19. I know thy Works, and Charity, and Service, and Faith, and thy Patience, and thy Works; and the laſt to be more than the firſt.

20. Notwithſtanding, I have a few Things againſt thee, becauſe thou ſuffereſt that Woman *Jezebel*, which calleth herſelf a Propheteſs, to teach and to ſeduce my Servants to commit Fornication, and to eat Things ſacrificed unto Idols.

21. And I gave her Space to repent of her Fornication, and ſhe repented not.

22. Behold, I will caſt her into a Bed, and them that commit Adultery with her into great Tribulation, except they repent of their Deeds.

23. And I will kill her Children with Death; and all the Churches ſhall know that I am he which ſearcheth the Reins and Hearts: And I will give unto every one of you according to your Works.

24. But unto you I ſay, and unto the reſt in *Thyatira*, As many as have not this Doctrine, and which have not known the Depths of *Satan*, as they ſpeak, I will put upon you none other Burden.

25. But that which ye have already, hold faſt 'till I come.

Here

Here it is plain, that God's *Wrath was kindled againſt the Church of* Thyatira, *and what a terrible Puniſhment was intended againſt her, unleſs ſhe did repent. And now we ſee* God's *Wrath is kindled againſt the World for Sin, which hath cauſed him to ſend this terrible War into moſt Parts of the Earth; and many will be killed with Death, except they repent: I mean all Religions. But here is Mercy offered to all Religions, if they will repent, and leave their* idolatrous *Worſhip, and turn to* Chriſt's *true Church.*

Isaiah ix. 6. For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the Government ſhall be upon his Shoulder: And his Name ſhall be called Wonderful, Counſellor, the Mighty God, the Everlaſting Father, the Prince of Peace.

Iſaiah *ſhewed before this, that* Chriſt *was to come, which has been fulfilled accordingly: And now he will rule the Nations with* a Rod of Iron, *and as the Veſſels of a Potter ſhall they be broken in Pieces.*

1 Kings xxii. 9. Then the King of *Iſrael* called an Officer, and ſaid, Haſten hither *Micciah*, the Son of *Imlah*.

10. And the King of *Iſrael*, and *Jehoſhaphat* the King of *Judah*, ſat each on his Throne, having put on their Robes, in a void Place, in the Entrance of the Gate of *Samaria*, and all the Prophets propheſied before them.

12. And all the Prophets propheſied ſo, ſaying, Go up to *Ramoth-gilead*, and proſper: For the *Lord* ſhall deliver it into the King's Hand.

14. And *Micaiah* ſaid, As the *Lord* liveth, what the *Lord* ſaith unto me, that will I ſpeak.

16. And the King ſaid unto him, How many Times ſhall I adjure thee, that thou tell me nothing but that which is true in the Name of the *Lord*.

Here Micaiah *was commanded to tell the King nothing but what was true in the Name of the* Lord.

17. And he ſaid, I ſaw all *Iſrael* ſcattered upon the Hills, as Sheep that have not a Shepherd: And the *Lord* ſaid, Theſe have no Maſter, let them return every Man to his Houſe in Peace.

18. And the King of *Iſrael* ſaid unto *Jehoſhaphat*, Did I not tell thee, that he would propheſie no Good concerning me, but Evil?

19. And he ſaid, Hear thou therefore the Word of the *Lord*: I ſaw the *Lord* ſitting on his Throne, and all the Hoſt of Heaven ſtanding by him, on his Right-Hand and on his Left.

20. And the *Lord* ſaid, Who ſhall perſuade *Ahab*, that he may go up and fall at *Ramoth-gilead?* And one ſaid on this Manner, and another ſaid on that Manner.

21. And there came forth a Spirit, and ſtood before the *Lord*, and ſaid, I will perſuade him.

22. And the *Lord* ſaid unto him, Wherewith? And he ſaid, I will go forth, and I will be a Lying Spirit in the Mouth of all his Prophets. And he ſaid, Thou ſhalt perſuade him, and prevail alſo: Go forth, and do ſo.

23. Now therefore behold, the *Lord* hath put a Lying Spirit in the Mouth of all theſe thy Prophets, and the *Lord* hath ſpoken Evil concerning thee.

Now the Lord *hath ſuffered the* Pope *and his wicked Crew to be* Lying Spirits, *to encourage the* Popiſh *Princes to raiſe this bloody War in many Parts of* Europe *Now as* Micaiah *told* Ahab *he ſhould fall in that War, ſo the* Popiſh *Armies will be overthrown before this War is ended.*

CHAP.

CHAPTER IV.

GENESIS III. 9.

AND the *Lord* God called unto *Adam*, and and ſaid unto him, Where art thou?

10. And he ſaid, I heard thy Voice in the Garden: and I was afraid, becauſe I was naked; and I hid myſelf.

11. And he ſaid, Who told thee that thou waſt naked? Haſt thou eaten of the Tree, whereof I commanded thee, that thou ſhouldſt not eat?

Here the Woman, *through Pride, deceived her Huſband.*

12. And the Man ſaid, The Woman whom thou gaveſt to be with me, ſhe gave me of the Tree, and I did eat.

13. And the *Lord* ſaid unto the Woman, What is this that thou haſt done? And the Woman ſaid, The Serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

Hear what God *ſaith to the* Serpent.

15. And I will put Enmity between thee and the Woman, and between thy Seed and her Seed: It ſhall bruiſe thy Head, and thou ſhalt bruiſe his Heel.

23. Therefore the *Lord* God ſent him forth from the Garden of *Eden*, to till the Ground from whence he was taken.

Here we ſee Adam *was caſt out of the earthly Paradiſe, for committing* one *Sin. What muſt we expect, that commit Sins without Number! We muſt expect to be ſhut out of the heavenly Paradiſe, except we repent of our Sins from the Bottom of our Hearts.*

The firſt *Sin that was committed, was in* Heaven: *For the* Devil, *out of Pride, thought himſelf*

equal with God, *and ſo, for his Pride, he was caſt out of Heaven. We ſee he tempted the* Woman *to eat the forbidden Fruit; and ſhe, out of the Pride of her Heart, took of the Fruit, and did eat, thinking ſhe ſhould be wiſe as Gods; and ſhe gave to her Huſband, and he did eat.*

Now, as Pride *cauſed Sin, ſo Sin has cauſed Puniſhment. For St.* Peter *ſaith, the* Devil *walketh about like a roaring Lion, ſeeking whom he may devour; whom reſiſt ſteadfaſtly. And I believe he hath no Power to hurt them that do ſteadfaſtly reſiſt him. For as through the* Diſobedience *of one Woman,* Sin *entered into the World, ſo the* Obedience *of another cauſed* Righteouſneſs *to come, which is* Jeſus Chriſt; *and he will deſtroy the Works of the* Devil, *now in this preſent Age: For he is the Seed of the Woman, that was to bruiſe the* Serpent's *Head, which is the* Devil.

Daniel ii. 28. But there is a God in Heaven that revealeth Secrets, and maketh known to the King *Nebuchadnezzar*, what ſhall be in the latter Days. Thy Dream, and the Viſions of thy Head upon thy Bed, are theſe;

29. (As for thee, O King, thy Thoughts came into thy Mind, upon thy Bed, what ſhould come to paſs hereafter: And he that revealeth Secrets maketh known unto thee what ſhall come to paſs.

30. But as for me, this Secret is not revealed to me, for any Wiſdom that I have more than any living, but for their Sakes that ſhall make known the Interpretation to the King, and that thou mighteſt know the Thoughts of thy Heart.)

32. This Image's Head was of fine Gold, his Breaſt and his Arms of Silver, his Belly and his Thighs of Braſs,

33. His Legs of Iron, his Feet part of Iron and part of Clay.

34. Thou

34. Thou ſaweſt 'till that a Stone was cut out without Hands, which ſmote Image upon his Feet that were of Iron and Clay, and brake them to Pieces.

35. Then was the Iron, the Clay, the Braſs, the Silver and the Gold broken to Pieces together, and became like the Chaff of the Summer-threſhing-Floors, and the Wind carried them away, that no Place was found for them: And the Stone that ſmote the Image became a great Mountain, and filled the whole Earth.

Now, this great Image, *which* Nebuchadnezzar *ſaw in his Dream, means the* Popiſh *Religion; for they have their Pictures, and Images of divers Metals: And theſe are the latter Days that* Daniel *ſpoke of.*

Chriſt *is the Stone that was cut out without Hands, which will ſmite the* Image *upon his* Feet *that are of* Iron *and* Clay, *and break them to Pieces. Now ſhall the Iron, the Clay, the Braſs, the Silver and the Gold, be broken in Pieces together, and become like the Chaff of the Summer-threſhing-Floors; and the Wind will carry them away, that no Place will be found for them: And the* Stone, *that will ſmite the* Image, *is become a great Mountain, and hath filled the whole Earth: For that is* Chriſt, *and he hath filled the Earth with his Goodneſs and Power; and he will deſtroy the Works of the* Devil, *which is* Idolatry, *now in a ſmall Space of Time.*

Isaiah i. 7. Your Country is deſolate, your Cities are burnt with Fire: Your Land, Strangers devour it in your Preſence, and it is deſolate as overthrown by Strangers.

16. Waſh ye, make you clean, put away the Evil of your Doings from before miné Eyes, ceaſe to do Evil.

17. Come now and let us reaſon together, ſaith the *Lord:* Though your Sins be as Scarlet, they ſhall

ſhall be as white as Snow; though they be red like Crimſon, they ſhall be as Wooll.

19. If ye be willing and obedient, ye ſhall eat the Good of the Land.

20. But if ye refuſe and rebel, ye ſhall be devoured with the Sword: For the Mouth of the *Lord* hath ſpoken it.

21. How is the faithful City become an Harlot! It was full of Judgment, Righteouſneſs lodged in it; but now Murderers.

Hosea iv. 1. Hear the Word of the *Lord*, ye Children of *Iſrael:* For the *Lord* hath a Controverſie with the Inhabitants of the Land, becauſe there is no Truth, nor Mercy, nor Knowledge of God in the Land.

2. By ſwearing, and lying, and killing, and ſtealing, and committing Adultery, they break out, and Blood toucheth Blood.

3. Therefore ſhall the Land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein ſhall languiſh, with the Beaſts of the Field, and with the Fowls of Heaven, yea, the Fiſhes of the Sea alſo ſhall be taken away.

7. As they were encreaſed, ſo they ſinned againſt me: Therefore will I change their Glory into Shame.

14. I will not puniſh your Daughters when they commit Whoredom, nor your Spouſes when they commit Adultery: For themſelves are ſeparated with Whores, and they ſacrifice with Harlots: Therefore the People that doth not underſtand, ſhall fall.

17. *Ephraim* is joined to Idols: Let him alone.

18. Their Drink is ſour: They have committed Whoredom continually: Her Rulers with Shame do love, Give ye.

Here God's *Judgment was threatened againſt the Children of* Iſrael, *for their wicked Doings, and*

their

their going a-whoring after other Gods. Therefore, let every one take Care leſt they provoke God *to Anger for that Sin, and all other Sins: For his Wrath is gone out into all the World. Therefore, let both High and Low, Rich and Poor, take Warning in Time, before it be too late.*

Amos iv. 10. I have ſent among you the Peſtilence, after the Manner of *Egypt:* Your young Men have I ſlain with the Sword, and have taken away your Horſes, and I have made the Stink of your Camps to come up unto your Noſtrils: Yet have ye not returned unto me, ſaith the *Lord.*

11. I have overthrown ſome of you, as God overthrew *Sodom* and *Gomorrah*, and ye were as a Firebrand plucked out of the Burning: Yet have ye not returned unto me, ſaith the *Lord.*

Therefore, it is high Time for every one, that deſireth God's *ſaving Grace, to turn to him whilſt he is to be found. For when* Nineveh *was over-run with the Wickedneſs of the People,* God, *through Mercy, ſent* Jonas *to preach unto them; and upon his preaching unto them, they repented at that Time in Sack-cloth and Aſhes: But afterwards they fell to their old Courſe of Sinning again, and* God *overthrew them.*

Nahum iii. 1. Woe to the bloody City, it is all full of Lyes and Robbery; the Prey departeth not.

2. The Noiſe of a Whip, and the Noiſe of the rattling of the Wheels, and of the prancing Horſes, and of the jumping Chariots.

3. The Horſeman lifteth up the bright Sword and the glittering Spear, and there is a Multitude of Slain, and a great Number of Carcaſſes; and there is none End of their Corpſes: They ſtumble upon their Corpſes.

4. Becauſe

4. Becauſe of the Multitude of the Whoredoms of the well-favoured Harlot, the Miſtreſs of Witchcrafts, that ſelleth Nations through her Whoredoms, and Families through her Witchcrafts.

5. Behold, I am againſt thee, ſaith the *Lord* of Hoſts, and I will diſcover thy Skirts upon thy Face, and I will ſhew the Nations thy Nakedneſs, and the Kingdoms thy Shame.

6. And I will caſt abominable Filth upon thee, and make thee Vile, and will ſet thee as a Gazing-Stock.

7. And it ſhall come to paſs, that all they that look upon thee, ſhall flee from thee, and ſay, *Nineveh* is laid waſte, who will bemoan her? Whence ſhall I ſeek Comforters for thee?

8. Art thou better than populous *No*, that was ſituate among the Rivers, that had the Waters round about it, whoſe Rampart was the Sea, and her Wall was from the Sea?

9. *Ethiopia* and *Egypt* were her Strength, and it was infinite, *Put* and *Lubim* were thy Helpers.

10. Yet was ſhe carried away, ſhe went into Captivity: Her young Children alſo were daſhed in Pieces at the Top of all the Streets: And they caſt Lots for her honourable Men, and all her great Men were bound in Chains.

13. Behold, thy People in the Midſt of thee are Women: The Gates of thy Land ſhall be ſet wide open unto thine Enemies, the Fire ſhall devour thy Bars.

Here we ſee God's *Wrath was poured out againſt that great City* Nineveh, *for their many Provocations againſt* God, *and he overthrew them in a terrible Manner. Therefore, let all the World now beg of* God *to give them repenting Hearts, that they may repent in Sack-cloth and Aſhes, before it be too late, for Wrath is gone out.*

ZECHA-

ZECH. iii. 1. And he ſhewed me *Joſhua* the High Prieſt, ſtanding before the Angel of the *Lord*, and Satan ſtanding at his Right Hand to reſiſt him.

2. And the *Lord* ſaid unto Satan, The *Lord* rebuke thee, O Satan, even the *Lord* that hath choſen *Jeruſalem*, rebuke thee: Is not this a Brand pluck'd out of the Fire?

3. Now *Joſhua* was cloathed with filthy Garments, and ſtood before the Angel.

4. And he anſwer'd, and ſpake unto thoſe that ſtood before him, ſaying, Take away the filthy Garments from him. And unto him he ſaid, Behold, I have cauſed thine Iniquity to paſs from thee, and I will clothe thee with Change of Raiment.

6. And the Angel of the *Lord* proteſted unto *Joſhua*, ſaying,

7. Thus ſaith the *Lord* of Hoſts, If thou wilt walk in my Ways, and if thou wilt keep my Charge, then thou ſhalt alſo judge my Houſe, and ſhalt alſo keep my Courts, and I will give thee Places to walk among theſe that ſtand by.

Here we ſee God's *Care for his Church and choſen People, and his Prieſts: Although* Satan *waits to tempt them, yet he plucks them out of his Hand, if they ſerve him, and buildeth them a ſure Houſe, which is in Heaven.*

Let us hear again the ſame Prophet, in his ivth *Chapter:*

11. Then anſwer'd I, and ſaid unto him, What are theſe two Olive Trees upon the Right-ſide of the Candleſtick, and upon the Left-ſide thereof?

12. And I anſwer'd again, and ſaid unto him, What be theſe two Olive Branches, which through the two golden Pipes empty the golden Oil out of themſelves?

13. And he anſwer'd me, and ſaid, Knoweſt thou not what theſe be? And I ſaid, No, my Lord.

14. Then ſaid he, Theſe are the two anointed Ones, that ſtand by the Lord of the whole Earth.

Thoſe two Olive Branches are the New *and the* Old Teſtaments, *the anointed Ones, that ſtand before the* God *of the whole Earth; and they empty their* golden Oil *into the* Churches, *by which is meant the* Candleſticks: *And every one that receiveth their* Oil *in due Time, that is, truly believing in* Chriſt's *Word, and the Declaration of his Goſpel, may be ſure of eternal Comfort; for their Oil will heal the Nations in a ſmall Space of Years.*

Ezek. xxxix. 7. So will I make my holy Name known in the Midſt of my People *Iſrael*, and I will not let them pollute my Name any more; and the Heathen ſhall know that I am the *Lord*, the holy one in *Iſrael.*

8. Behold, it is come, and it is done, ſaith the *Lord God*; this is the Day whereof I have ſpoken.

9. And they that dwell in the Cities of *Iſrael* ſhall go forth, and ſhall ſet on Fire and burn the Weapons, both the Shields and the Bucklers, the Bows and the Arrows, and the Hand-ſtaves and the Spears, and they ſhall burn them with Fire ſeven Years.

It is very plain, that this great Work of God *was done from the* Creation; *for ſo it is ſaid, in the 8th Verſe of this Chapter, which Prophecy* Ezekiel *wrote before* Chriſt *was upon Earth.*

20. Thus ye ſhall be filled at my Table with Horſes and Chariots, with mighty Men, and with all Men of War, ſaith the *Lord God.*

21. And I will ſet my Glory among the Heathen, and all the Heathen ſhall ſee my Judgment that I have executed, and my Hand that I have laid upon them.

22. So

22. So the Houſe of *Iſrael* ſhall know that I am the *Lord* their *God* from that Day and forward.

23. And the Heathen ſhall know that the Houſe of *Iſrael* went into Captivity for their Iniquity: Becauſe they treſpaſs'd againſt me, therefore hid I my Face from them, and gave them into the Hand their Enemies; ſo fell they all by the Sword.

24. According to their Uncleanneſs, and according to their Tranſgreſſions have I done unto them, and hid my Face from them.

25. Therefore thus ſaith the *Lord God*, Now will I *bring again* the Captivity of *Jacob*, and have Mercy upon the whole Houſe of *Iſrael*, and will be jealous for my holy Name:

Not for the Sake of the Jews *only, but for the Sake of all the World; for as the* Lord *is a God of Juſtice, ſo is he a God of Mercy; for the Gates of* Jeruſalem *ſhall be open continually after the* Reſtoration *is paſt, which is near at hand.*

26. After that they have borne their Shame, and all their Treſpaſſes whereby they have treſpaſſed againſt me, when they dwelt ſafely in their Land, and none made them afraid.

27. When I have brought them again from the People and gathered them out of their Enemies Lands, and am ſanctified in them in the Sight of many Nations:

28. Then ſhall they know that I am the *Lord* their God, which cauſed them to be led into Captivity among the Heathen: But I have gathered them unto their own Land, and have left none of them any more there.

29. Neither will I hide my Face any more from them: For I have poured out my Spirit upon the Houſe of *Iſrael*, ſaith the *Lord God*.

Neither will God *hide his Face from his People, if they ſtrive to ſerve him; for his Gates ſhall be continually open, that is, his Churches.*

Rom. ii. 22. Thou that ſayſt a Man ſhould not commit Adultery, doſt thou commit Adultery? Thou that abhorreſt Idols, doſt thou commit Sacrilege?

23. Thou that makeſt thy Boaſt of the Law, through breaking the Law diſhonoureſt thou God?

Rom. iii. 15. Their Feet are ſwift to ſhed Blood.

16. Deſtruction and Miſery are in their Ways.

17. And the Way of Peace have they not known.

18. There is no Fear of God before their Eyes.

Here it appears that St. Paul *wrote to the* old Romans, *to ſhew them how wickedly they went on, contrary to* God's *Commandments and in Diſobedience of his righteous Laws. And now the* Romans *go on in a more dangerous Manner than they did when St.* Paul *wrote to them; for the* Scripture *is plain to every one that will be truly guided by it.*

CHAPTER V.

JOHN V. 46.

FOR had ye believed *Moſes*, ye would have believed me: For he wrote of me.

47. But if ye believe not his Writings, how ſhall ye believe my Words?

Here it is very plain, that the Children of Iſrael's *Hearts were ſo harden'd, that they would not believe* Chriſt *nor* Moſes. *And by the World's going on in Sin and Rebellion againſt* God *and all* Appearance *of* Chriſtian Religion, *it is likely that if* Chriſt *were upon Earth now, the World would ſhew the ſame Spirit of Unbelief and Hardneſs of Heart.*

Hear

Hear what the Lord *ſaith by the Prophet* Hoſea, Chap. i.

2. The Beginning of the Word of the *Lord* by *Hoſea:* And the *Lord* ſaid to *Hoſea*, Go take unto thee a Wife of Whoredoms, and Children of Whoredoms: For the Land hath committed great Whoredom, departing from the *Lord.*

3. So he went and took *Gomer*, the Daughter of *Diblaim*, which conceived and bare him a Son.

4. And the *Lord* ſaid unto him, Call his Name *Jezreel*; for yet a little while, and I will avenge the Blood of *Jezreel* upon the Houſe of *Jehu*, and will cauſe to ceaſe the Kingdom of the Houſe of *Iſrael.*

5. And it ſhall come to paſs at that Day, that I will break the Bow of *Iſrael* in the Valley of *Jezreel.*

6. And ſhe conceived again, and bare a Daughter; and God ſaid unto him, Call her Name, *Loruhamah:* For I will no more have Mercy upon the Houſe of *Iſrael*; but I will utterly take them away.

10. Yet the Number of the Children of *Iſrael* ſhall be as the Sand of the Sea, which cannot be meaſur'd nor number'd; and it ſhall come to paſs, that in the Place where it was ſaid unto them, Ye are not my People, there it ſhall be ſaid unto them, Ye are the Sons of the living God.

11. Then ſhall the Children of *Judah* and the Children of *Iſrael* be gathered together, and appoint themſelves one Head, and they ſhall come up out of the Land: For great ſhall be the Day of *Jezreel.*

Here we ſee God's *Wrath was kindled againſt the Children of* Iſrael, *for committing* Idolatry, *and for going a-whoring after other Gods: Yet upon their Repentance, he hath promiſed to receive them into the Land of* Judea *again.*

Hosea ii. 2. Plead with your Mother, plead: For she is not my Wife, neither am I her Husband: Let her therefore put away her Whoredoms out of her Sight, and her Adulteries from between her Breasts;

3. Lest I strip her naked, and set her as in the Day that she was born, and make her as a Wilderness, and set her like a dry Land, and slay her with Thirst.

4. And I will not have Mercy upon her Children, for they be the Children of Whoredoms.

Here we see God's *Wrath was kindled against the Children of* Israel, *for going a whoring after other Gods, as they had done before, and he greatly punished them for their Rebellion.*

10. And now will I discover her Lewdness in the Sight of her Lovers, and none shall deliver her out of mine Hand.

11. I will also cause all her Mirth to cease, her Feast-Days, her New-Moons, and her Sabbaths, and all her solemn Feasts.

12. And I will destroy her Vines and her Figtrees, whereof she hath said, These are my Rewards that my Lovers have given me: And I will make them a Forest, and the Beasts of the Field shall eat them.

Now, after this she repented, and God *turned to her, and upon her Repentance he promised Mercy, as appears by what follows.*

18. And in that Day will I make a Covenant for them with the Beasts of the Field, and with the Fowls of Heaven, and with the creeping Things of the Ground; and I will break the Bow and the Sword, and the Battle out of the Earth, and I will make them to lie down safely.

19. And I will betroth thee unto me for ever, yea, I will betroth thee unto me in Righteousness,

neſs, and in Judgment, and in loving Kindneſs, and in Mercies.

20. I will even betroth thee unto me in Faithfulneſs, and thou ſhalt know the *Lord*.

21. And it ſhall come to paſs in that Day, I will hear, ſaith the *Lord*, I will hear the Heavens, and they ſhall hear the Earth.

22. And the Earth ſhall hear the Corn and the Wine and the Oil, and they ſhall hear *Jezreel*.

23. And I will ſow her unto me in the Earth, and I will have Mercy upon her that had not obtain'd Mercy, and I will ſay to them which were not my People, Thou art my People; and they ſhall ſay, Thou art my God.

Here we ſee, in the latter Part of this Second Chapter of Hoſea, *God's Promiſe to the Children of* Iſrael; *and not to them only, but to all others that will follow his righteous Laws. It is alſo plain here, that he promiſes they ſhall be* reſtored *to the Land of* Iſrael *again, and* Chriſt *ſhall be King to them all.*

And here we likewiſe ſee, that God's *Wrath was kindled againſt the Children of* Iſrael, *for their going a-whoring after other Gods. And now God's Wrath is kindled againſt the World for Sin, eſpecially the Sin of* Idolatry, *that he hath ſent a terrible War into moſt Parts of the Earth.*

Joel iii. 16. The *Lord* alſo ſhall roar out of *Zion*, and utter his Voice from *Jeruſalem*, and the Heavens and the Earth ſhall ſhake; but the *Lord* will be the Hope of his People, and the Strength of the Children of *Iſrael*.

18. And it ſhall come to paſs in that Day, that the Mountains ſhall drop down new Wine, and the Hills ſhall flow with Milk, and all the Rivers of *Judah* ſhall flow with Waters, and a Fountain ſhall come forth of the Houſe of the *Lord*, and ſhall water the Valley of *Shittim*.

20. But

20. But *Judah* ſhall dwell for ever, and *Jeruſalem* from Generation to Generation.

Here we ſee God's *Promiſe of reſtoring the* Goſpel *into the Land of* Iſrael *again, and the happy Condition the whole World will be in at that Time: For, from the Time that the* Standard *of the* Goſpel *ſhall be carried into the Land of* Iſrael *again, there ſhall be a* Thouſand *Years of* Peace, *and all Nations ſhall receive the Benefit of this bleſſed Change, and all Religions ſhall fly to* Jeruſalem, *to receive Inſtruction.*

2 CHRON. xiv. 2. And *Aſa* did that which was good and right in the Eyes of the *Lord* his God.

3. For he took away the Altars of the ſtrange Gods, and the high Places, and brake down the Images, and cut down the Groves:

4. And commanded *Judah* to ſeek the *Lord* God of their Fathers, and to do the Law and the Commandment.

5. Alſo he took away out of all the Cities of *Judah*, the high Places and the Images: And the Kingdom was quiet before him.

And though the Lord *ſmote the Enemies of* Aſa *at that Time, yet they roſe up againſt him again.*

9. And there came out againſt them *Zerah* the *Ethiopian*, with an Hoſt of a Thouſand Thouſand, and Three Hundred Chariots, and came unto *Mareſhah*.

11. And *Aſa* cried unto the *Lord* his God, and ſaid, *Lord*, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no Power: Help us, O *Lord* our God; for we reſt on thee, and in thy Name we go againſt this Multitude: O *Lord*, thou art our God, let not Man prevail againſt thee.

12. So the *Lord* ſmote the *Ethiopians* before *Aſa*, and before *Judah*, and the *Ethiopians* fled.

13. And

13. And *Aſa* and the People that were with him, purſued them unto *Gerar:* And the *Ethiopians* were overthrown, that they could not recover themſelves, for they were deſtroy'd before the *Lord*, and before his Hoſt; and they carried away very much Spoil.

14. And they ſmote all the Cities round about *Gerar*, for the Fear of the *Lord* came upon them: And they ſpoiled all the Cities, for there was exceeding much Spoil in them.

15. They ſmote alſo the Tents of Cattle, and carried away Sheep and Camels in Abundance, and returned to *Jeruſalem*.

Here we ſee God's *Wrath was kindled againſt the Ethiopian for* Idolatry; *and he ſmote him before* Aſa, *becauſe* Aſa *deſtroyed the Worſhippers of* Idols: *And ſo* God *will, in all Places of the World, in a ſmall Space of Years, deſtroy all the falſe Worſhip.*

JUDG. vi. 1. And the Children of *Iſrael* did Evil in the Sight of the *Lord*: And the Lord deliver'd them into the Hand of *Midian* ſeven Years.

2. And the Hand of *Midian* prevailed againſt *Iſrael:* And becauſe of the *Midianites* the Children of *Iſrael* made them Dens which are in the Mountains, and Caves, and ſtrong Holds.

10. And I ſaid unto you, I am the *Lord* your God, fear not the Gods of the *Amorites* in whoſe Land ye dwell: But ye have not obeyed my Voice.

11. And there came an Angel of the *Lord*, and ſat under an Oak which was in *Ophrah*, that pertained unto *Joaſh* the *Abi-ezrite:* And his Son *Gideon* threſhed Wheat by the Wine-Preſs, to hide it from the *Midianites*.

12. And the Angel of the *Lord* appeared unto him, and ſaid unto him, The *Lord* is with thee, thou mighty Man of Valour.

13. And *Gideon* ſaid unto him, Oh my Lord, if the *Lord* be with us, why then is all this befallen us? And where be all his Miracles which our Fathers told us of, ſaying, Did not the *Lord* bring us up from *Egypt?* but now the *Lord* hath forſaken us, and deliver'd us into the Hands of the *Midianites.*

14. And the *Lord* looked upon him and ſaid, Go in this thy Might, and thou ſhalt ſave *Iſrael* from the Hand of the *Midianites:* Have not I ſent thee?

22. And when *Gideon* perceived that he was an Angel of the *Lord*, *Gideon* ſaid, Alas, O *Lord* God: For becauſe I have ſeen an Angel of the *Lord* Face to Face.

24. And the *Lord* ſaid unto him, Peace be unto thee, fear not, thou ſhalt not dye.

This, that Gideon *called an* Angel *of the* Lord, *was* Chriſt, *not come in the Fleſh at that Time.*

Jud. vii. 21. And they ſtood every Man in his Place, round about the Camp: And all the Hoſt ran, and cried, and fled.

22. And the three hundred blew the Trumpets, and the *Lord* ſet every Man's Sword againſt his Fellow, even throughout all the Hoſt: And the Hoſt fled to *Bethſhittah*, in *Zererath*, and to the Border of *Abel-meholah*, unto *Tabbath.*

Here we ſee the Lord *delivered the Children of* Iſrael *out of the Hands of the* Midianites *in a wonderful Manner, becauſe they cried mightily to him for Help, and becauſe they deſtroyed the Worſhip of* Idols.

We alſo ſee in many, many Places of Scripture, *that when the* Princes of the Earth *begin to be puffed up with* Pride, *they ſoon forget the* true God, *and fall into* Idolatry; *which cauſeth him immediately to raiſe up ſome Adverſary, as a Scourge,*

to

to revenge his Cauſe, and to make them know, that there is none can deliver them but by his Protection.

Rev. xiv. 2. And I heard a Voice from Heaven, as the Voice of many Waters, and as the Voice of a great Thunder: And I heard the Voice of Harpers harping with their Harps:

6. And I ſaw another Angel fly in the midſt of Heaven, having the Everlaſting Goſpel to preach unto them that dwell on the Earth, and to every Nation, and Kindred, and Tongue, and People,

We may aſſure ourſelves, that the Goſpel *hath never been preached to all the World yet: But here we ſee* God's *Promiſe is, that it ſhall be preached to them that dwell on the Earth,* to every Nation, and Kindred, and Tongue, and People. *And now that bleſſed and happy Time is near at Hand.*

8. And there followed another Angel, ſaying, *Babylon* is fallen, is fallen, that great City, becauſe ſhe made all Nations drink of the Wine of the Wrath of her Fornication.

The Meaning of Babylon *is* Rome: *For* Rome *will be deſtroyed in a ſmall Space of Time, and the* Pope *and the* Popiſh *Religion along with it.*

9. And the third Angel followed them, ſaying with a loud Voice, If any Man worſhip the Beaſt and his Image, and receive his Mark in his Forehead, or in his Hand,

10. The ſame ſhall drink of the Wine of the Wrath of God, which is poured out without Mixture, into the Cup of his Indignation; and he ſhall be tormented with Fire and Brimſtone, in the Preſence of the Holy Angels, and in the Preſence of the Lamb:

11. And the Smoke of their Torment aſcendeth up for ever and ever: And they have no Reſt Day nor Night, who worſhip the Beaſt and his Image, and whoſoever receiveth the Mark of his Name.

The Meaning of the Beaſt *is the* Popiſh *Religion: For they worſhip* Images *and* Pictures, *contrary to* God's Commandment; *and in ſo doing they rob* God *of his Honour, which is Blaſphemy againſt him. And thoſe who pretend to* forgive Sins, *commit the greateſt Blaſphemy in the World.*

Therefore, let every one ſerve the God *of Heaven in Sincerity and Truth; and every Man that does ſo, may be ſure of eternal Comfort; which may the God of Comfort grant to all that read this.*

Ezek. xxxvi. 16. Moreover the Word of the *Lord* came unto me, ſaying,

17. Son of Man, when the Houſe of *Iſrael* dwelt in their own Land, they defiled it by their own Ways, and by their Doings: Their Way was before me as the Uncleanneſs of a removed Woman.

18. Wherefore I poured my Fury upon them for the Blood they had ſhed upon the Land, and for their Idols wherewith they had polluted it.

19. And I ſcatter'd them among the Heathen, and they were diſperſed through the Countries: According to their Way, and according to their Doings I judged them.

22. Therefore ſay unto the Houſe of *Iſrael*, Thus ſaith the *Lord* God, I do not this for your Sakes, O Houſe of *Iſrael*, but for mine Holy Name's Sake, which ye have profaned among the Heathen, whither ye went.

24. For I will take you from among the Heathen, and gather you out of all Countries, and will bring you into your own Land.

26. A new Heart alſo will I give you, and a new Spirit will I put within you, and I will take away the ſtony Heart out of your Fleſh, and I will give you an Heart of Fleſh.

27. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cauſe

cauſe you to walk in my Statutes, and ye ſhall keep my Judgments, and do them.

Theſe are the joyful Promiſes of the Reſtoration *of the* Jews *into the Land of* Judea *again, which is near at Hand.*

Eccle. ix. 13. This Wiſdom have I ſeen alſo under the Sun, and it ſeem'd great unto me:

14. There was a little City, and few Men within it; and there came a great King againſt it, and beſieg'd it, and built great Bulwarks againſt it:

15. Now there was found in it a poor wiſe Man, and he by his Wiſdom deliver'd the City; yet no Man remember'd that ſame poor Man.

16. Then ſaid I, Wiſdom is better than Strength: Nevertheleſs, the poor Man's Wiſdom is deſpiſed, and his Words are not heard.

In the ſame Chapter, V. 7. we find theſe Words: Go thy Way, eat thy Bread with Joy, and drink thy Wine with a merry Heart; for God now accepteth thy Works.

And now I have great Reaſon to believe, that theſe Things which I have writ, will turn greatly to God's *Glory and the World's Good.*

1 Kings xviii. 19. Now therefore ſend, and gather to me all *Iſrael* unto *Mount Carmel*, and the Prophets of *Baal* four hundred and fifty, and the Prophets of the Groves four hundred, which eat at *Jezebel*'s Table.

20. So *Ahab* ſent unto all the Children of *Iſrael*, and gathered the Prophets together unto *Mount Carmel*.

21. And *Elijah* came unto all the People, and ſaid, How long halt ye between two Opinions? If the *Lord* be *God*, follow him: But if *Baal*, then follow him. And the People anſwer'd him not a Word.

22. Then

22. Then ſaid *Elijah* unto the People, I, even I only remain a Prophet of the *Lord*; but *Baal*'s Prophets are four hundred and fifty Men.

Here Elijah *ſhews, that though he was but* one *Prophet, yet he was* God*'s Order; and ſo he convinced* Baal*'s Prophets, although they were four hundred and fifty Men. He proved his Order by Fire; but they were by the* Devil*'s Order.*

27. And it came to paſs at Noon, that *Elijah* mock'd them, and ſaid, Cry aloud: For he is a God, either he is talking, or he is purſuing, or he is in a Journey, or peradventure he ſleepeth, and muſt be awaked.

28. And they cried aloud, and cut themſelves after their Manner with Knives and Lancets, 'till the Blood guſh'd out upon them.

29. And it came to paſs, when Mid-day was paſt, and they propheſied until the Time of the Offering of the Evening Sacrifice, that there was neither Voice, nor any to anſwer, nor any that regarded.

30. And *Elijah* ſaid unto all the People, Come near unto me. And all the People came near unto him: And he repair'd the Altar of the *Lord* that was broken down.

39. And when all the People ſaw it, they fell on their Faces: And they ſaid, The *Lord*, he is the God; the *Lord*, he is the *God*.

40. And *Elijah* ſaid unto them, Take the Prophets of *Baal*, let not one of them eſcape: And they took them, and *Elijah* brought them down to the Brook *Kiſhon*, and ſlew them there.

Here we may ſee the great Power of God, *by the Works of his true Prophets of old, when* one *convinced all the People, although their Prophets were four hundred and fifty. And now in this preſent Age,* God*'s two true Prophets will convince all the* Popiſh *Prophets in the World; I mean the* Old *and the* New Teſta-

Teſtaments; *for they are the* true Prophets *that will flouriſh all over the World in a very ſmall Space of Time.*

CHAP. VI.

IN the xvith *Chapter of the Book of* Numbers *we read theſe Words:*

46. And *Moſes* ſaid unto *Aaron*, Take a Cenſer, and put Fire therein from off the Altar, and put on Incenſe, and go quickly unto the Congregation, and make an Atonement for them: For there is Wrath gone out from the *Lord*; the Plague is begun.

It is very plain that the Children of Iſrael *murmur'd againſt* Moſes *and* Aaron, *and againſt* God, *although they had ſeen the great Deliverances that* God *had wrought for them.*

47. And *Aaron* took as *Moſes* commanded, and ran into the Midſt of the Congregation; and behold the Plague was begun among the People: And he put on Incenſe, and made an Atonement for the People.

48. And he ſtood between the Dead and the Living, and the Plague was ſtaid.

49. Now they that died of the Plague, were fourteen Thouſand and ſeven Hundred, beſides them that died about the Matter of *Korah.*

And now we ſee very plain, that the Plague of War *is begun in many Parts of the Earth: Therefore it is high Time for both the Divines, and all the People, to make Interceſſion to* God, *and beg that he would be pleas'd to withdraw his Wrath from the World, leſt he ſhould ſend a worſe Puniſhment than War.*

2 CHRON. xix. 6. And he ſaid to the Judges, Take heed what ye do: For ye judge not for Man, but for the *Lord*, who is with you in the Judgment.

7. Wherefore now, let the Fear of the *Lord* be upon you, take heed and do it: For there is no Iniquity with the *Lord* our *God*, nor Reſpect of Perſons, nor taking of Gifts.

9. And he charged them, ſaying, Thus ſhall ye do in the Fear of the *Lord*, faithfully, and with a perfect Heart.

10. And what Cauſe ſoever ſhall come to you of your Brethren that dwell in their Cities, between Blood and Blood, between Law and Commandment, Statutes and Judgments, ye ſhall even warn them that they treſpaſs not againſt the *Lord*, and ſo Wrath come upon you, and upon your Brethren: This do, and ye ſhall not treſpaſs.

Here is a Warning to all People, not to oppreſs one another, neither in their Dealings, nor in unjuſt Law Suits; for in ſo doing they break through God's *juſt Laws, which is a great Sin.*

2 CHRON. xx. 2. Then there came ſome that told *Jehoſhaphat*, ſaying, There cometh a great Multitude againſt thee from beyond the Sea, on this Side *Syria*, and behold they be in *Hazazon-Tamar*, which is *En-gedi*.

3. And *Jehoſhaphat* feared, and ſet himſelf to ſeek the *Lord*, and proclaimed a Faſt throughout all *Judah*.

4. And *Judah* gathered themſelves together, to aſk Help of the *Lord*: Even out of all the Cities they came to ſeek the *Lord*.

5. And *Jehoſhaphat* ſtood in the Congregation of *Judah* and *Jeruſalem*, in the Houſe of the *Lord* before the new Court.

6. And ſaid, O *Lord God* of our Fathers, art thou not *God* in Heaven? and ruleſt not thou over

over all the Kingdoms of the Heathen? and in thine Hand is there not Power and Might, ſo that none is able to withſtand thee?

7. Art not thou our *God*, who didſt drive out the Inhabitants of this Land before thy People *Iſrael*, and gaveſt it to the Seed of *Abraham* thy Friend for ever.

Here we ſee Jehoſhaphat *was in great Diſtreſs, for fear of the Children of the* Moab *and the Children of* Ammon, *and he cried unto the Lord.*

14. Then upon *Jahaziel*, the Son of *Zechariah*, the Son of *Benaiah*, the Son of *Jehiel*, the Son of *Mattaniah*, a *Levite* of the Sons of *Aſaph*, came the Spirit of the *Lord* in the Midſt of the Congregation:

15. And he ſaid, Hearken ye, all *Judah*, and ye Inhabitants of *Jeruſalem*, and thou King *Jehoſhaphat*, Thus ſaith the *Lord* unto you, Be not afraid, nor diſmayed by Reaſon of this great Multitude; for the Battle is not your's, but *God*'s.

16. To-morrow go ye down againſt them: Behold, they come up by the Cliff of *Ziz*, and ye ſhall find them at the End of the Brook, before the Wilderneſs of *Jeruel*.

17. Ye ſhall not need to fight in this Battle; ſet yourſelves, ſtand ye ſtill, and ſee the Salvation of the *Lord* with you, O *Judah* and *Jeruſalem*: Fear not, nor be diſmayed; To-morrow go out againſt them, for the *Lord* will be with you.

18. And *Jehoſhaphat* bowed his Head with his Face to the Ground, and all *Judah*, and the Inhabitants of *Jeruſalem* fell before the *Lord*, worſhipping the *Lord*.

19. And the *Levites* of the Children of the *Kohathites*, and of the Children of the *Korhites*, ſtood up to praiſe the *Lord* God of *Iſrael* with a loud Voice on high.

20. And they roſe early in the Morning, and went forth into the Wilderneſs of *Tekoa*: And as they went forth, *Jehoſhaphat* ſtood and ſaid, Hear me, O *Judah*, and ye Inhabitants of *Jeruſalem*, believe in the *Lord* your God, ſo ſhall you be eſtabliſhed; believe his Prophets, ſo ſhall ye proſper.

Here the Prophet *greatly encouraged both* Jehoſhaphat *and the Inhabitants of* Judah *and* Jeruſalem, *not to be afraid of that* great Multitude; *for the* Lord *would fight the Battle, and they ſhould look on.*

Thus it is very plain, that God *is ready at all Times to help his* true Church *and* choſen People, *if they obey him truly, and worſhip him with an obedient Heart, truly believing that he is both able and willing to help him in Time of Need.*

1 Chron. xiv. 11. So they came up to *Baal-Perazim*, and *David* ſmote them there. Then *David* ſaid, God hath broken in upon mine Enemies by mine Hand, like the breaking forth of Waters: Therefore they called the Name of that Place, *Baal-Perazim.*

12. And when they had left their Gods there, *David* gave a Commandment, and they were burnt with Fire.

13. And the *Philiſtines* yet again ſpread themſelves abroad in the Valley.

14. Therefore *David* enquired again of God; and God ſaid unto him, Go not up after them, turn away from them, and come upon them over-againſt the Mulberry-Trees.

15. And it ſhall be, when thou ſhalt hear a Sound of going in the Tops of the Mulberry-Trees, that then thou ſhalt go out to Battle: For God is gone forth before thee, to ſmite the Hoſt of the *Philiſtines.*

16. *David*

16. *David* therefore did as God commanded him: And they ſmote the Hoſt of the *Philiſtines* from *Gibeon* even unto *Gazer*.

17. And the Fame of *David* went out into all Lands, and the *Lord* brought the Fear of him upon all Nations.

Behold what Encouragement David *had from the* Lord *to go againſt the* Philiſtines, *and fight his Battles; for he gave him a particular Time that he would go before him, and he obſerved the Time that* God *had warned him of; for* God *had put it in his Heart to deſtroy their falſe Gods.*

David *was a Man after* God's *own Heart, as it is written in the Scripture; becauſe he worſhipped no God but the* true God, *and continually deſtroyed all* falſe Worſhip; *for there never was a Man that deſtroyed* Idolatry *ſo much as* David *did. Therefore* God *bleſſed him, and made him proſper, and cauſed all the World to fear him.*

1 Samuel xvii. 43. And the *Philiſtine* ſaid unto *David*, Am I a Dog, that thou comeſt to me with Staves? And the *Philſtine* curſed *David* by his Gods.

44. And the *Philiſtine* ſaid to *David*, Come to me, and I will give thy Fleſh unto the Fowls of the Air, and to the Beaſts of the Field.

45. Then ſaid *David* to the *Philiſtine*, Thou comeſt to me with a Sword, and with a Spear, and with a Shield: But I come to thee in the Name of the *Lord* of Hoſts, the God of the Armies of *Iſrael*, whom thou haſt defied.

46. This Day will the *Lord* deliver thee into mine Hand, and I will ſmite thee, and take thine Head from thee, and I will give the Carcaſſes of the Hoſt of the *Philiſtines* this Day unto the Fowls of the Air, and to the wild Beaſts of the Earth; that all the Earth may know that there is a God in *Iſrael*.

47. And all this Aſſembly ſhall know that the *Lord* ſaveth not with Sword and Spear: For the Battle is the *Lord*'s, and he will give you into our Hands.

Here we ſee that in all Ages God *delivers his People from* idolatrous Tyrants. *Although he ſuffers them ſometimes to cauſe a great deal of Blood to be ſhed, he pays them home at the laſt.*

48. And it came to paſs when the *Philiſtine* aroſe, and came, and drew nigh to meet *David*, that *David* haſted, and ran toward the Army to meet the *Philiſtine*.

49. And *David* put his Hand in his Bag, and took thence a Stone, and ſlang it, and ſmote the *Philiſtine* in his Forehead, that the Stone ſunk into his Forehead; and he fell upon his Face to the Earth.

50. So *David* prevailed over the *Philiſtine* with a Sling and with a Stone, and ſmote the *Philiſtine* and ſlew him; but there was no Sword in the Hand of *David*.

51. Therefore *David* ran and ſtood upon the *Philiſtine*, and took his Sword, and drew it out of the Sheath thereof, and ſlew him, and cut off his Head therewith. And when the *Philiſtines* ſaw their Champion was dead, they fled.

52. And the Men of *Iſrael* and of *Judah* aroſe, and ſhouted, and purſued the *Philiſtines*, until thou come to the Valley, and to the Gates of *Ekron*: And the wounded of the *Philiſtines* fell down by the Way of *Shaaraim*, even unto *Gath*, and unto *Ekron*.

53. And the Children of *Iſrael* returned from chaſing after the *Philiſtines*, and they ſpoiled their Tents.

Here we ſee that God *always puniſhes the Enemies of his Church: For though the* Philiſtines *boaſted themſelves of their great Hoſt and their Champion*;

yet

yet becauſe they truſted in their falſe *Gods, the* Lord *overthrew them with a great Slaughter.*

GENESIS xix. 1. And there came two Angels to *Sodom* at Even; and *Lot* ſat in the Gate of *Sodom*: And *Lot* ſeeing them, roſe up to meet them; and he bowed himſelf with his Face toward the Ground;

2. And he ſaid, Behold now my Lords, turn in, I pray you, into your Servant's Houſe, and tarry all Night, and waſh your Feet, and ye ſhall riſe up early, and go on your Ways: And they ſaid, Nay, but we will abide in the Street all Night.

3. And he preſſed upon them greatly; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his Houſe: And he made them a Feaſt, and did bake unleavened Bread, and they did eat.

4. But before they lay down, the Men of the City, even the Men of *Sodom*, compaſſed the Houſe round, both old and young, all the People from every Quarter.

5. And they called unto *Lot*, and ſaid unto him, Where are the Men that came unto thee this Night? Bring them out unto us, that we may know them.

6. And *Lot* went out at the Door unto them, and ſhut the Door after him.

7. And ſaid, I pray you, Brethren, do not ſo wickedly.

10. But the Men put forth their Hand, and pulled *Lot* into the Houſe to them, and ſhut to the Door.

11. And they ſmote the Men that were at the Door of the Houſe with Blindneſs, both ſmall and great: So that they wearied themſelves to find the Door.

12. And the Men ſaid unto *Lot*, Haſt thou here any beſides? Son-in-Law, and thy Sons, and thy Daughters,

Daughters, and whatſoever thou haſt in the City, bring them out of this Place.

13. For we will deſtroy this Place: Becauſe the Cry of them is waxen great before the Face of the *Lord*, and the *Lord* hath ſent us to deſtroy it.

14. And *Lot* went out and ſpake unto his Sons-in-Law, which married his Daughters, and ſaid, Up, get ye out of this Place; for the *Lord* will deſtroy this City: But he ſeemed as one that mocked unto his Sons-in-Law.

15. And when the Morning aroſe, then the Angels haſtened *Lot*, ſaying, Ariſe, take thy Wife, and thy two Daughters which are here; leſt thou be conſumed in the Iniquity of the City.

16. And while he lingered, the Men laid hold upon his Hand, and upon the Hand of his Wife, and upon the Hand of his two Daughters; the *Lord* being merciful unto him: And they brought him forth, and ſet him without the City.

24. Then the *Lord* rained upon *Sodom* and upon *Gomorrah* Brimſtone and Fire from the *Lord* out of Heaven.

26. But his Wife looked back from behind him, and ſhe became a Pillar of Salt.

Here we muſt conſider who this Angel *was that came to warn* Lot *of the Overthrow of* Sodom *and* Gomorrah: *It was* Chriſt, *not then come in the Fleſh. And if they had repented, as* Nineveh *did at the Preaching of* Jonah, *no doubt but* God *would have ſpared them at that Time, as he did* Nineveh.

Exodus xix. 3. And *Moſes* went up unto God, and the *Lord* called unto him out of the Mountain, ſaying, Thus ſhalt thou ſay to the Houſe of *Jacob*, and tell the Children of *Iſrael*.

4. Ye have ſeen what I did unto the *Egyptians*, and how I bare you on Eagle's Wings, and brought you unto myſelf.

5. Now

5. Now therefore, if ye will obey my Voice indeed, and keep my Covenant, then ye ſhall be a peculiar Treaſure unto me above all People: For all the Earth is mine.

6. And ye ſhall be unto me a Kingdom of Prieſts, and an holy Nation. Theſe are the Words which thou ſhalt ſpeak unto the Children of *Iſrael.*

7. And *Moſes* came and called for the Elders of the People, and laid before their Faces of all theſe Words which the *Lord* commanded him.

8. And all the People anſwered together, and ſaid, All that the *Lord* hath ſpoken, we will do. And *Moſes* returned the Words of the People unto the *Lord.*

9. And the *Lord* ſaid unto *Moſes*, Lo, I come unto thee in a thick Cloud, that the People may hear when I ſpeak with thee, and believe thee for ever. And *Moſes* told the Words of the People unto the *Lord.*

10. And the *Lord* ſaid unto *Moſes*, Go unto the People, and ſanctify them to Day and To-morrow, and let them waſh their Clothes.

11. And be ready againſt the third Day: For the third Day the *Lord* will come down in the Sight of all the People upon Mount *Sinai.*

We may ſee here God's *Promiſe to his People: If they will obey his Words, and follow his Laws, then all the World ſhall have the ſame Mercy poured upon them, as was promiſed to the Children of* Iſrael.

Hear God's *Command*, Exod. xx. 4.

Thou ſhalt not make unto thee any graven Image, or any Likeneſs of any Thing, that is in Heaven above, or that is in the Earth beneath, or that is in the Water under the Earth.

Here is God's *Command. that People ſhall not make any Manner of* Image, *nor the* Similitude *of*

any

any Thing, as Pictures: *For in ſo doing they break through his Command, and diſhonour him.*

And now the World is grown ſo rebellious and idolatrous, *that they ſpend a great deal of their precious Time in gazing on their pompous* Pictures; *and thus are ſo much given to* Idolatry, *that it hath cauſed* God's *Wrath to be poured down upon the World, and he hath ſent a terrible War into many Parts of the Earth, as a Scourge for their Rebellion. For to delight either in* Images *or* Pictures, *is robbing* God *of his Honour.*

Micah iv. 2. And many Nations ſhall come and ſay, Come, let us go up to the Mountain of the *Lord*, and to the Houſe of the God of *Jacob*, and he will teach us of his Ways, and we will walk in his Paths: For the Law ſhall forth of *Zion*, and the Word of the *Lord* from *Jeruſalem.*

Here God *ſhews, that at the Time when the* Chriſtian *Religion ſhall be planted in* Jeruſalem *again, that thoſe Churches which are ſcattered about the World, and have not the Knowlege of the* true *Religion, will come to* Jeruſalem, *to be directed in the true Way of worſhipping* God; *which will be in a ſmall Space of Time.*

Rev. viii. 13. And I beheld, and heard a mighty Angel flying through the Midſt of Heaven, ſaying with a loud Voice, Wo, wo, wo to the Inhabiters of the Earth, by Reaſon of the other Voices of the Trumpet of the three Angels which are yet to ſound.

Some Years before this War began, the Pope *wrote to all the* Popiſh *Princes in* Europe, *to encourage them to raiſe an offenſive War againſt the* Proteſtant *People: For the* Devil *is his Agent: And now in this preſent Age is this Woe pronounced, eſpecially againſt the* Popiſh *Princes and their People; for their Religion will be* ſilenced *now, in a very ſmall Space of Years.*

Rev.

Rev. ix. 2. And he opened the bottomleſs Pit, and there aroſe a Smoke out of the Pit, as the Smoke of a great Furnace; and the Sun and the Air were darkened by Reaſon of the Smoke of the Pit.

Now, the Devil *knowing his Time to be ſhort, hath poured out his Wrath, and* God *hath ſuffered him to raiſe this fierce and ſmoky War, to break out in the World. And they are like Locuſts upon the Earth, and he hath given them all the Power that he can, even like the Scorpions of the Earth have Power.*

7. And the Shapes of the Locuſts were like unto Horſes prepared unto Battle; and on their Heads were, as it were, Crowns like Gold, and their Faces were as the Faces of Men.

This means the Popiſh *Armies; for they wear Armour, both Breaſt-Plates and Steel Caps, and their Faces are as the Faces of Men.*

11. And they had a King over them, which is the Angel of the bottomleſs Pit, whoſe Name in the *Hebrew* Tongue is *Abaddon*, but in the *Greek* Tongue hath his Name *Apollyon*.

Here the Popiſh *Armies have a King over them, which is the Angel of the bottomleſs Pit, which is the* Devil.

20. And the reſt of the Men which were not killed by theſe Plagues, yet repented not of the Works of their Hands, that they ſhould not worſhip Devils, and Idols of Gold, and Silver, and Braſs, and Stone, and of Wood, which neither can ſee, nor hear, nor walk:

21. Neither repented they of their Murders, nor of their Sorceries, nor of their Fornication, nor of their Thefts.

Although God *hath ſhewn the World, in many Inſtances of Scripture, his great Diſpleaſure againſt* falſe Worſhip, *yet there are a great many Men,*

which yet repent not of their worſhipping Idols *and* graven Images, *which is plainly the Work of the* Devil: *For to worſhip any Thing but* God, *is the Work of the* Devil. *Therefore, let every one that deſireth the Mercies of* God, *worſhip him and no other God.*

EZEKIEL xxxvi. 8. But ye, O Mountains of *Iſrael*, ye ſhall ſhoot forth your Branches, and yield your Fruit to my People of *Iſrael*, for they are at Hand to come.

9. For behold, I am for you, and I will turn unto you, and ye ſhall be tilled and ſown.

10, And I will multiply Men upon you, all the Houſe of *Iſrael*, even all of it, and the Cities ſhall be inhabited, and the Waſtes ſhall be builded.

11. And I will multiply upon you Man and Beaſt, and they ſhall increaſe and bring Fruit, and I will ſettle you after your old Eſtates, and I will do better unto you than at your Beginnings, and ye ſhall know that I am the *Lord.*

Let us hear what St. Paul *writeth to the* Romans, Chap. xiii.

10. Love worketh no ill to his Neighbour: Therefore Love is the fulfilling of the Law.

11. And that, knowing the Time, that now it is high Time to awake out of Sleep: For now is our Salvation nearer than when we believed.

12. The Night is far ſpent, the Day is at hand: Let us therefore caſt off the Works of Darkneſs, and let us put on the Armour of Light.

14. But put ye on the *Lord Jeſus Chriſt*, and make not Proviſion for the Fleſh, to fulfill the Luſts thereof.

St. Paul *being well acquainted with the* antient Romans, *knew very well their Way of Worſhip, and how it was not the true Way of worſhipping* God: *Therefore he wrote to them very briefly, to inſtruct*

ſtruct them in the true Religion; for God *made him a choſen Veſſel, becauſe* God *knew them to be a* ſtubborn rebellious *People.*

Rom. xiv. 11. For it is written, As I live, ſaith the *Lord*, every Knee ſhall bow to me, and every Tongue ſhall confeſs to God.

12. So then every one of us ſhall give Account of himſelf to God.

Here St. Paul *makes it very plain, that the* Pope *and his wicked Crew have no Buſineſs to pretend to make any* confeſs *to them, nor no Parſon on Earth.*

17. For the Kingdom of God is not Meat and Drink, but Righteouſneſs, and Peace, and Joy in the Holy Ghoſt.

19. Let us therefore follow after the Things which make for Peace, and Things wherewith one may edify another.

And I doubt not but that glorious Time is near at Hand, that People will rejoice in edifying one another: For all the World will be at Peace *now, in the Space of* ſeven *Years.*

CHAPTER VII.

IN the twentieth Chapter of Exodus, *Ver.* 4. *we find theſe Words:*

Thou ſhalt not make unto thee any graven Image, or any Likeneſs of any Thing, that is in Heaven above, or that is in the Earth beneath, or that is in the Water under under the Earth.

Here God *ſet this Commandment before the Children of* Iſrael, *as a Token of his righteous Laws, to govern them and all the World. But they ſoon broke through this Law.*

Exod. xxxii. 8. They have turned aſide quickly out of the Way which I commanded them: They have made them a molten Calf, and have wor-

worſhipped it, and have ſacrificed thereunto, and ſaid, Theſe be thy Gods, O *Iſrael*, which have brought thee up out of the Land of *Egypt*.

9. And the *Lord* ſaid unto *Moſes*, I have ſeen this People, and behold, it is a ſtiff-necked People.

LEVIT. xxvi. 1. Ye ſhall make no Idols, nor graven Image, neither rear you up a ſtanding Image, neither ſhall ye ſet up any Image of Stone in your Land, to bow down unto it: For I am the *Lord* your God.

23. And if ye will not be reformed by me by theſe Things, but will walk contrary unto me:

24. Then will I alſo walk contrary unto you, and will puniſh you yet ſeven Times for your Sins.

25. And I will bring a Sword upon you, that ſhall avenge the Quarrel of my Covenant: And when ye are gathered together within your Cities, I will ſend the Peſtilence among you, and ye ſhall be delivered into the Hand of the Enemy.

Here God *threatens the Children of* Iſrael, *if they will not obey his Command to worſhip him, and forſake their* Idolatry, *and tells them plainly in what Manner he will puniſh them. And now, at the Rate the World is going on in Sin and Iniquity, we may expect that there is as great a Puniſhment due to the whole World now, as was then.*

NUMB. xxii. 11. Behold, there is a People come out of *Egypt*, which covereth the Face of the Earth: Come now, curſe me them; peradventure I ſhall be able to overcome them, and drive them out.

12. And God ſaid unto *Balaam*, Thou ſhalt not go with them, thou ſhalt not curſe the People: For they are bleſſed.

Here God *charges* Balaam *not to go to curſe the People: But* Balak *tempting him with large Promiſes of great Riches and Honour, cauſed him to enquire of* God *again.*

20. And

20. And God came unto *Balaam* at Night, and ſaid unto him, If the Men come to call thee, riſe up, and go with them; but yet the Word which I ſhall ſay unto thee, that ſhalt thou do.

21. And *Balaam* roſe up in the Morning, and ſaddled his Aſs, and went with the Princes of *Moab*.

22. And God's Anger was kindled, becauſe he went: And the Angel of the *Lord* ſtood in the Way for an Adverſary againſt him: Now he was riding upon his Aſs, and his two Servants were with him.

23. And the Aſs ſaw the Angel of the *Lord* ſtanding in the Way, and his Sword drawn in his Hand: And the Aſs turned aſide out of the Way, and went into the Field: And *Balaam* ſmote the Aſs to turn her into the Way.

24. But the Angel of the *Lord* ſtood in a Path of the Vineyards, a Wall being on this Side, and a Wall on that Side.

25. And when the Aſs ſaw the Angel of the *Lord*, ſhe thruſt herſelf unto the Wall, and cruſhed *Balaam*'s Foot againſt the Wall: And he ſmote her again.

26. And the Angel of the *Lord* went further, and ſtood in a narrow Place, where was no Way to turn either to the Right Hand or to the Left.

27. And when the Aſs ſaw the Angel of the *Lord*, ſhe fell down under *Balaam*: And *Balaam*'s Anger was kindled, and he ſmote the Aſs with a Staff.

28. And the *Lord* opened the Mouth of the Aſs, and ſhe ſaid unto *Balaam*, What have I done unto thee, that thou haſt ſmitten me theſe three Times?

29. And *Balaam* ſaid unto the Aſs, becauſe thou haſt mocked me: I would there were a Sword in mine Hand, for now would I kill thee.

30. And

30. And the Aſs ſaid unto *Balaam*, Am not I thine Aſs, upon which thou haſt ridden ever ſince I was thine, unto this Day? Was I ever wont to do ſo unto thee? And he ſaid, Nay.

31. Then the *Lord* open'd the Eyes of *Balaam*, and he ſaw the Angel of the *Lord* ſtanding in the Way, and his Sword drawn in his Hand: And he bowed down his Head, and fell flat on his Face.

32. And the Angel of the *Lord* ſaid unto him, Wherefore haſt thou ſmitten thine Aſs theſe three Times? Behold, I went out to withſtand thee, becauſe thy Way is perverſe before me.

33. And the Aſs ſaw me, and turned from me theſe three Times: Unleſs ſhe had turn'd from me, ſurely now alſo I had ſlain thee, and ſaved her alive.

34. And *Balaam* ſaid unto the Angel of the *Lord*, I have ſinned; for I knew not that thou ſtoodeſt in the Way againſt me: Now therefore if it diſpleaſe thee, I will get me back again.

35. And the Angel of the *Lord* ſaid unto *Balaam*, Go with the Men: But only the Word that I ſhall ſpeak to thee, that thou ſhalt ſpeak: So *Balaam* went with the Princes of *Balak*.

Here we ſee God's *Anger was kindled againſt* Balaam, *for offering to go with* Balak *to curſe the Children of* Iſrael; *for they were bleſſed: Yet becauſe he ſtill deſir'd to go, becauſe* Balak *offered him great Preſents, he prevail'd on him.*

Hear what he ſaith, when he came to ſee the People:

NUMB. xxiii. 24. Behold, the People ſhall riſe up as a great Lion, and lift up himſelf as a young Lion: He ſhall not lye down until he eat of the Prey, and drink the Blood of the Slain.

Here

Here Balaam *cries out again*, NUMB. xxiv. 5. How goodly are thy Tents, O *Jacob*, and thy Tabernacles, O *Iſrael!*

Here he cries out, that Chriſt's *Church ſhould flouriſh, and yet afterwards ſhews* Balak *how to cauſe them to fall into Sin.*

NUMB. xxv. 1. And *Iſrael* abode in *Shittim*, and the People began to commit Whoredom with the Daughters of *Moab*.

2. And they called the People unto the Sacrifices of their Gods: And the People did eat, and bowed down unto their Gods.

3. And *Iſrael* join'd himſelf unto *Baal-Peor*: And the Anger of the *Lord* was kindled againſt *Iſrael*.

4. And the *Lord* ſaid unto *Moſes*, Take all the Heads of the People, and hang them up before the *Lord* againſt the Sun, that the fierce Anger of the *Lord* may be turn'd away from *Iſrael*.

5. And *Moſes* ſaid unto the Judges of *Iſrael*, Slay ye every one his Men, that were join'd unto *Baal-Peor*.

Here God's *Command was to ſlay every Man that had joined himſelf unto* Baal-Peor. *And here we alſo ſee, that* God *cauſed the Dumb Aſs to ſpeak with a Man's Voice, to forbid the Madneſs of the Prophet.*

Here we alſo find, that God's *Wrath was pour'd out againſt the People for* Idolatry. *And now the World is grown ſo full of Sin and Wickedneſs, that if a* Dumb Aſs *ſhould ſpeak with a* Man's Voice, *they would ſcarce repent. Yet we ſee that in all Ages, when the People forſake him, and go a-whoring after other Gods, he ſoon poureth out his Wrath upon them, in ſome Manner or other.*

DEUT. ix. 6. Underſtand therefore, that the *Lord* thy God giveth thee not this good Land to poſſeſs

poſſeſs it, for thy Righteouſneſs; for thou art a Stiff-necked People.

8. Alſo in *Horeb* ye provoked the *Lord* to Wrath, ſo that the Lord was angry with you, to have deſtroy'd you.

15. So I turned, and came down from the Mount, and the Mount burned with Fire: And the two Tables of the Covenant were in my two Hands.

16. And I looked, and behold, ye had ſinned againſt the *Lord* your God, and had made you a molten Calf: Ye had turned aſide quickly out of the Way which the *Lord* had commanded you.

17. And I took the two Tables, and caſt them out of my two Hands, and brake them before your Eyes.

19. (For I was afraid of the Anger, and hot Diſpleaſure wherewith the Lord was wroth againſt you to deſtroy you) But the *Lord* hearkened unto me at that Time alſo.

20. And the *Lord* was very angry with *Aaron*, to have deſtroy'd him: And I pray'd for *Aaron* alſo the ſame Time.

21. And I took your Sin, the Calf which ye had made, and burnt it with Fire, and ſtampt it, and ground it very ſmall, even until it was as ſmall as Duſt: And I caſt the Duſt thereof into the Brook that deſcendeth out of the Mount,

23. Likewiſe when the *Lord* ſent you from *Kadeſh-barnea*, ſaying, Go up and poſſeſs the Land which I have given you; then you rebelled againſt the Commandment of the *Lord* your God, and ye believed him not, nor hearkened to his Voice.

24. You have been rebellious againſt the *Lord*, from the Day that I knew you.

Here

Here is ſhewn the Diſobedience and the Rebellion of the Children of Iſrael, *and their Hardneſs of Heart, and their Unbelief; and further, in making that* Calf, *and worſhipping it, the* Lord *was wroth with them, 'till* Moſes *fell down before the* Lord *to make Interceſſion for them, and to deſtroy it before their Faces. And now the World is going on ſo faſt in Sin and Rebellion, that* God *hath ſent a terrible War into many Parts of the Earth, as a Scourge for Sin, eſpecially the Sin of* Idolatry,

Josh. xxiv. 14. Now therefore fear the *Lord*, and ſerve him in Sincerity and in Truth, and put away the Gods which your Fathers ſerved on the other Side of the Flood, and in *Egypt*; and ſerve ye the *Lord*.

15. And if it ſeem evil unto you to ſerve the *Lord*, chuſe you this Day whom you will ſerve, whether the Gods which your Fathers ſerv'd, that were on the other Side of the Flood, or the Gods of the *Amorites*, in whoſe Land ye dwell: But as for me and my Houſe, we will ſerve the *Lord*.

Here Joſhua *calls upon the* true God *to be his everlaſting Salvation.*

Judg. viii. 24. And *Gideon* ſaid unto them, I would deſire a Requeſt of you, that ye would give me every Man the Ear-rings of his Prey: (for they had Golden Ear-rings, becauſe they were *Iſhmaelites*.)

25. And they anſwer'd, We will willingly give them. And they ſpread a Garment, and did caſt therein, every Man the Ear-rings of his Prey.

26. And the Weight of the Golden Ear-rings that he requeſted, was a thouſand and ſeven hundred Shekels of Gold, beſide Ornaments, and Collars, and Purple Raiment that was on the Kings of *Midian*, and beſide the Chains that were about their Camels Necks.

27. And *Gideon* made an Ephod thereof, and put it in his City, even in *Ophrah*; and all *Iſrael* went thither a-whoring after it: Which Thing became a Snare unto *Gideon*, and to his Houſe.

28. Thus was *Midian* ſubdued before the Children of *Iſrael*, ſo that they lifted up their Heads no more; and the Country was in Quietneſs forty Years in the Days of *Gideon*.

33. And it came to paſs as ſoon as *Gideon* was dead, that the Children of *Iſrael* turned again, and went a-whoring after *Baalim*, and made *Baal-berith* their God.

34. And the Children of *Iſrael* remember'd not the *Lord* their God, who had deliver'd them out of the Hands of all their Enemies on every Side.

Here we ſee very plain the Sin *that* Gideon *was guilty of, for all* God *had ſent an* Angel *to him before, to encourage him to go againſt the* Midianites, *and that he ſhould overcome them*; which he did: *And becauſe he fell away from* God, *and went a-whoring after other Gods, the* Lord *cauſed his Sons to be ſlain, being threeſcore and ten Perſons.*

Judg. ix. 1. And *Abimelech* the Son of *Jerubbaal* went to *Shechem* unto his Mother's Brethren, and communed with them, and with all the Family of the Houſe of his Mother's Father, ſaying,

2. Speak, I pray you, in the Ears of all the Men of *Shechem*, Whether is better for you, either that all the Sons of *Jerubbaal* (which are threeſcore and ten Perſons) reign over you, or that one reign over you? Remember alſo that I am your Bone and your Fleſh.

5. And he went unto his Father's Houſe at *Ophrah*, and ſlew his Brethren the Sons of *Jerubbaal*, being threeſcore and ten Perſons, upon one Stone: Notwithſtanding, yet *Jotham* the young-

eſt

eſt Son of *Jerubbaal* was left; for he hid himſelf.

Here is ſhewn that God's *Wrath was kindled againſt* Jerubbaal *for the great Sin of* Idolatry, *ſo that it was the Deſtruction of his* whole *Houſe: And ſo it will be to all thoſe that worſhip any God but the* true God; *for there is but one* God, *and but one* Mediator.

DEUT. xxvii. 15. Curſed be the Man that maketh any graven or molten Image, an Abomination unto the *Lord*, the Work of the Hands of the Craftſman, and putteth it in a ſecret Place: And all the People ſhall anſwer and ſay, Amen.

Hear what is written in the 1ſt Book of Kings.

Chap. xi.

1. But King *Solomon* loved many ſtrange Women (together with the Daughters of *Pharaoh*) Women of the *Moabites*, *Ammonites*, *Edomites*, *Zidonians* and *Hittites*.

2. Of the Nations concerning which the *Lord* ſaid unto the Children of *Iſrael*, Ye ſhall not go into them, neither ſhall they come in unto you, for ſurely they will turn away your Heart after their Gods: *Solomon* clave unto theſe in Love.

8. And likewiſe did he for all his ſtrange Wives, which burnt Incenſe, and ſacrificed unto their Gods.

9. And the *Lord* was angry with *Solomon*, becauſe his Heart was turned from the *Lord* God of *Iſrael*, which had appear'd unto him twice,

10. And had commanded him concerning this Thing, that he ſhould not go after other Gods: But he kept not that which the *Lord* commanded.

11. Wherefore the *Lord* ſaid unto *Solomon*, Foraſmuch as this is done of thee, and thou haſt not kept my Covenant and my Statutes which I have

commanded thee, I will ſurely rend the Kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy Servant.

12. Notwithſtanding in thy Days I will not do it, for *David* thy Father's Sake: But I will rend it out of the Hand of thy Son.

13. Howbeit, I will not rend away all the Kingdom: But will give one Tribe to thy Son, for *David* my Servant's Sake, and for *Jeruſalem*'s Sake which I have choſen.

Now, for all the great Bleſſings, both of Riches and Wiſdom, that God *had given* Solomon, *more than any King ever had, yet he tranſgreſſed againſt* God *in going after other Gods; and ſo* God *rent the Kingdom out of his Son's Hand, as he had promiſed him. This ſhews* God's *great Diſpleaſure againſt all thoſe that follow any* Idolatrous Worſhip, *for if he bears with them long, he pays them home at laſt.*

MARK xiii. 31. Heaven and Earth ſhall paſs away: But my Words ſhall not paſs away.

1 KINGS xii. 20. And it came to paſs when all *Iſrael* heard that *Jeroboam* was come again, that they ſent and called him unto the Congregation, and made him King over all *Iſrael:* There was none that followed the Houſe of *David*, but the Tribe of *Judah* only.

28. Whereupon the King took Counſel, and made two Calves of Gold, and ſaid unto them, It is too much for you to go up to *Jeruſalem:* Behold thy Gods, O *Iſrael*, which brought thee up out of the Land of *Egypt*.

29. And he ſet the one in *Beth-el*, and the other he put in *Dan*.

30. And this Thing became a Sin: For the People went to worſhip before the one, even unto *Dan*.

31. And he made an Houſe of high Places, and made Prieſts of the loweſt of the People, which were not of the Sons of *Levi*.

32. And

32. And *Jeroboam* ordain'd a Feaſt in the eighth Month, on the fifteenth Day of the Month, like unto the Feaſt that is in *Judah*, and he offer'd upon the Altar (ſo did he in *Beth-el*) ſacrificing unto the Calves that he had made: And he placed in *Beth-el* the Prieſts of the high Places which he had made.

1 KINGS xiv. 7. Go, tell *Jeroboam*, Thus ſaith the *Lord* God of *Iſrael*, Foraſmuch as I exalted thee from among the People, and made thee Prince over my People *Iſrael*,

8. And rent the Kingdom away from the Houſe of *David*, and gave it thee; and yet thou haſt not been as my Servant *David*, who kept my Commandments, and who followed me with all his Heart, to do that only which was right in mine Eyes.

9. But thou haſt done Evil above all that were before thee: For thou haſt gone and made thee other Gods, and molten Images, to provoke me to Anger, and haſt caſt me behind thy Back:

10. Therefore behold, I will bring Evil upon the Houſe of *Jeroboam*, and will cut off from *Jeroboam* him that piſſeth againſt the Wall, and him that is ſhut up and left in *Iſrael*, and will take away the Remnant of the Houſe of *Jeroboam*, as a Man taketh away Dung, 'till it be all gone.

11. Him that dieth of *Jeroboam* in the City, ſhall the Dogs eat: And him that dieth in the Field, ſhall the Fowls of the Air eat: For the *Lord* hath ſpoken it.

Here we ſee God's *ſevere Puniſhment againſt* Jeroboam *and his whole Houſe, for his great Sin in diſobeying* God's *Command, in both making* molten Images, *and worſhipping them, which is an Abomination to the* Lord.

Hear

Hear what is written in the Prophecies of Daniel, Chap. iii.

13. Then *Nebuchadnezzar* in his Rage and Fury commanded to bring *Shadrah*, *Meſhach*, and *Abed-nego:* Then they brought theſe Men before the King.

14. *Nebuchadnezzar* ſpake and ſaid unto them, Is it true, O *Shadrach*, *Meſhach*, and *Abed-nego?* Do not ye ſerve my Gods, not worſhip the Golden Image which I have ſet up.

15. Now if ye be ready that at what Time ye hear the Sound of the Cornet, Flute, Harp, Sackbut, Pſaltery, and Dulcimer, and all Kinds of Muſick, ye fall down and worſhip the Image which I have made, *well:* But if ye worſhip not, ye ſhall be caſt the ſame Hour into the Midſt of a burning fiery Furnace, and who is that God that ſhall deliver you out of my Hands?

16. *Shadrach*, *Meſhach*, and *Abed-nego* anſwer'd and ſaid to the King, O *Nebuchadnezzar*, we are not careful to anſwer thee in this Matter.

17. If it be ſo, our God whom we ſerve, is able to deliver us from the burning fiery Furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine Hand, O King.

18. But if not, be it known unto thee, O King, that we will not ſerve thy Gods, nor worſhip the Golden Image which thou haſt ſet up.

19. Then was *Nebuchadnezzar* full of Fury, and the Form of his Viſage was changed againſt *Shadrach*, *Meſhach*, and *Abed-nego:* Therefore he ſpake and commanded, that they ſhould heat the Furnace one ſeven Times more than it was wont to be heat.

20. And he commanded the moſt mighty Men that were in his Army, to bind *Shadrach*, *Meſhach*, and *Abed-nego*, and to caſt them into the burning fiery Furnace.

21. Then

21. Then theſe Men were bound in their Coats, their Hoſen, and their Hats, and their other Garments, and were caſt into the midſt of the burning fiery Furnace.

22. Therefore becauſe the King's Commandment was urgent, and the Furnace exceeding hot, the Flame of the Fire ſlew thoſe Men that took up *Shadrach*, *Meſhach*, and *Abed-nego*.

23. And theſe three Men, *Shadrach*, *Meſhach*, and *Abed-nego*, fell down bound into the midſt of the burning fiery Furnace.

24. Then *Nebuchadnezzar* the King was aſtonied, and roſe up in Haſte, and ſpake, and ſaid unto his Counſellors, Did not we caſt three Men bound into the midſt of the Fire? They anſwer'd and ſaid unto the King, True, O King.

25. He anſwer'd and ſaid, Lo, I ſee four Men looſe, walking in the midſt of the Fire, and they have no Hurt, and the Form of the fourth is like the Son of God.

26. Then *Nebuchadnezzar* came near to the Mouth of the burning fiery Furnace, and ſpake and ſaid, *Shadrach*, *Meſhach*, and *Abed-nego*, ye Servants of the moſt high God, come forth, and come hither. Then *Shadrach*, *Meſhach*, and *Abed-nego* came forth of the midſt of the Fire.

27. And the Princes, Governors and Captains, and the King's Counſellors being gather'd together, ſaw theſe Men, upon whoſe Bodies the Fire had no Power, nor was a Hair of their Head ſinged, neither were their Coats changed, nor the Smell of Fire had paſſed on them.

28. Then *Nebuchadnezzar* ſpake, and ſaid, Bleſſed be the God of *Shadrach*, *Meſhach*, and *Abed-nego*, who hath ſent his Angel, and deliver'd his Servants that truſted in him, and have chang'd the King's Word, and yielded their Bodies, that they

they might not ſerve nor worſhip any God, except their own God.

29. Therefore I make a Decree, that every People, Nation, and Language, which ſpeak any Thing amiſs againſt the God of *Shadrach*, *Meſhach*, and *Abed-nego*, ſhall be cut in Pieces, and their Houſes ſhall be made a Dung-hill, becauſe there is no no other God that can deliver after this ſort.

This Deliverance of theſe Children out of the fiery Furnace, muſt be a great Encouragement to all true Believers, *that* God *is ready at all Times to deliver his* true Church *and* choſen People *from all* Popiſh *Tyrants, let their Malice be never ſo great: For in all Ages he hath ſhewn his Goodneſs when they were in the greateſt Extremity. His Hand is not ſhorten'd; and at this Time* God *will ſhew his Wrath to thoſe* Popiſh *Princes and People, that have raiſed this offenſive War againſt the* Proteſtant *Religion; for the* Popiſh *Religion will be ſilenced in a ſmall Space of Time.*

Haggai ii. 6. For thus ſaith the *Lord* of Hoſts, Yet once, it is a little while, and I will ſhake the Heavens and the Earth, and the Sea, and the dry Land:

7. And I will ſhake all Nations, and the Deſire of all Nations ſhall come, and I will fill this Houſe with Glory, ſaith the *Lord* of Hoſts.

9. The Glory of this latter Houſe ſhall be greater than of the former, ſaith the *Lord* of Hoſts: And in this Place will I give Peace, ſaith the *Lord* of Hoſts.

And now God *will* ſhake all Nations *with a terrible War, as I have foretold; and the* Heathen *ſhall be brought to the Light of the* Goſpel, *and then the* Temple *ſhall be built, and* Chriſt *will pour down his Spirit into People's Hearts, and all the World will rejoice at this happy Change.*

Reve. xix. 1. And after theſe Things I heard a great Voice of much People in Heaven, ſaying, Alleluia; Salvation, and Glory, and Honour, and Power unto the Lord our God:

2. For true and righteous are his Judgments; for he hath judged the great Whore, which did corrupt the Earth with her Fornication, and hath avenged the Blood of his Servants at her Hand.

The great Whore *is the* Popiſh *Religion; for they go a-whoring after other Gods.*

6. And I heard as it were the Voice of a great Multitude, and as the Voice of many Waters, and as the Voice of mighty Thunderings, ſaying, Alleluia: For the *Lord God* omnipotent reigneth.

7. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give Honour to him: For the Marriage of the Lamb is come, and his Wife hath made herſelf ready.

8. And to her was granted, that ſhe ſhould be arrayed in fine Linnen, clean and white: For the fine Linnen is the Righteouſneſs of Saints.

Now, as ſoon as the Chriſtian *Armies ſhall have overcome the* Turks, *which will be in a ſmall Space of Years, then all the World will turn to the* Proteſtant Religion, *and then will be the* Marriage *of the* Lamb; *for by the* Lamb *is meant* Chriſt, *and he will be married to his Church, and his Church to him.*

19. And I ſaw the Beaſt, and the Kings of the Earth, and their Armies gathered together, to make War againſt him that ſat on the Horſe, and againſt his Army.

The Beaſt *is the* Popiſh *Religion. And now the* Popiſh *Princes have gather'd their Armies together againſt* Chriſt's *true Church, and againſt his Armies.*

20. And the Beaſt was taken, and with him the falſe Prophet that wrought Miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the

Mark of the Beaſt, and them that worſhipped his Image: Theſe both were caſt alive into a Lake of Fire burning with Brimſtone.

The Beaſt *is the* Popiſh *Religion, for they worſhip falſe Gods; and as they take upon them to* forgive Sins, *they are the* falſe Chriſt: *And the* falſe Prophet *is the* Mahometan; *for he draws a great Part of the World aſtray after him. Theſe both will now be ſmaſhed in Pieces, in a ſmall Space of Time.*

Acts xvi. 16. And it came to paſs, as we went to Prayer, a certain Damſel, poſſeſs'd with a Spirit of Divination, met us, which brought her Maſters much Gain by Soothſaying:

17. The ſame followed *Paul*, and us, and cried, ſaying, Theſe Men are the Servants of the Moſt High God, which ſhew unto us the Way of Salvation.

18. And this did ſhe many Days. But *Paul* being grieved, turned and ſaid to the Spirit, I command thee in the Name of *Jeſus Chriſt* to come out of her. And he came out the ſame Hour.

19. And when her Maſters ſaw that the Hope of their Gains was gone, they caught *Paul* and *Silas*, and drew them into the Market-place, unto the Rulers,

20. And brought them to the Magiſtrates, ſaying, Theſe Men being *Jews*, do exceedingly trouble our City,

21. And teach Cuſtoms which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to obſerve, being *Romans.*

Here we ſee, that in the Apoſtles *Time, the* Devil *being afraid that his Kingdom would come to ruin, he enter'd into this certain Damſel; and when her Maſters ſaw the Hope of their Gains was gone, they cauſed an Inſurrection to be made. And now the* Devil *knowing his Time to be ſhort, hath cauſed the* Romans

Romans *to raiſe this bloody War in* Europe: *For the* Devil *knows that the* Romiſh *Religion will be brought to ruin, and then the* Pope, *and his Prieſts and Jeſuits, will loſe the Benefits of their Religion in ſelling their Pardons.*

22. And the Multitude roſe up together againſt them: And the Magiſtrates rent off their Cloaths, and commanded to beat them.

23. And when they had laid many Stripes upon them, they caſt them into Priſon, charging the the Jailor to keep them ſafely.

24. Who having receiv'd ſuch a Charge, thruſt them into the inner Priſon, and made their Feet faſt in the Stocks.

25. And at Midnight *Paul* and *Silas* prayed, and ſang Praiſes unto God: And the Priſoners heard them.

26. And ſuddenly there was a great Earthquake, ſo that the Foundations of the Priſon were ſhaken: And immediately all the Doors were opened, and every ones Bands were looſed.

Here, although their Malice was great, ſo that they were ſtrictly confined, yet God *releaſed them from their Tyranny, and cauſed the Keeper to fall before them trembling. And as* God *relieved his* Apoſtles *from the Malice of thoſe wicked Men, we may be aſſured he will looſe his* true Church *and* choſen People *from the malicious Deſigns of the* Devil *and his wicked Crew.*

30. And brought them out, and ſaid, Sirs, What muſt I do to be ſaved?

31. And they ſaid, Believe on the Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and thou ſhalt be ſaved, and thy Houſe.

32. And they ſpake unto him the Word of the *Lord*, and to all that were in his Houſe.

Here we ſee that this miraculous Deliverance cauſed the Jaylor to believe and repent.

CHAP. VIII.

IN *the Book of* Geneſis, *Chap.* xii. *Ver.* 1 and 3, *it is written:*

Now the *Lord* had ſaid unto *Abram*, Get thee out of thy Country, and from thy Kindred, and from thy Father's Houſe, unto a Land that I will ſhew thee.

And I will bleſs them that bleſs thee, and curſe him that curſeth thee; and in thee ſhall all Families of the Earth be bleſt.

Here we ſee, in the early Days, that God, *out of Pity to poor loſt Man, found a Way to redeem all thoſe that would believe and repent.*

GEN. xviii. 1. And the *Lord* appeared unto him in the Plains of *Mamre:* And he ſat in the Tent-Door, in the Heat of the Day.

2. And he lift up his Eyes, and looked, and lo, three Men ſtood by him: And when he ſaw them, he ran to meet them from the Tent-Door, and and bowed himſelf toward the Ground.

9. And they ſaid unto him, Where is *Sarah* thy Wife? And he ſaid, Behold, in the Tent.

10. And he ſaid, I will certainly return unto thee according to the Time of Life; and lo, *Sarah* thy Wife ſhall have a Son. And *Sarah* heard it in the Tent-Door, which was behind him.

14. Is any Thing too hard for the *Lord?* At the Time appointed will I return unto thee, according to the Time of Life, and *Sarah* ſhall have a Son.

17. And the *Lord* ſaid, Shall I hide from *Abraham* that Thing which I do;

18. Seeing that *Abraham* ſhall ſurely become a great and mighty Nation, and all the Nations of the Earth ſhall be bleſſed in him?

20. And

20. And the *Lord* ſaid, Becauſe the Cry of *Sodom* and *Gomorrah* is great, and becauſe their Sin is very grievous;

21. I will go down now, and ſee whether they have done altogether according to the Cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.

22. And the Men turn'd their Faces from thence, and went toward *Sodom:* But *Abraham* ſtood yet before the *Lord.*

This, that Abraham *ſtood before, was* Chriſt, *not come in the Fleſh at that Time.*

23. And *Abraham* drew near, and ſaid, Wilt thou alſo deſtroy the Righteous with the Wicked?

32. And he ſaid, Oh, let not the *Lord* be angry, and I will ſpeak but this once: Peradventure ten ſhall be found there. And he ſaid, I will not deſtroy it for ten's Sake.

GEN. xxi. 1. And the *Lord* viſited *Sarah* as he had ſaid, and the *Lord* did unto *Sarah* as he had ſpoken.

2. For *Sarah* conceiv'd, and bare *Abraham* a Son in his old Age, at the ſet Time of which *God* had ſpoken to him.

Here we find that God *perform'd his Promiſe to* Abraham, *in giving him a Son, which was the Joy of his Heart; and here we ſee the great Trial of Faith and Patience in* Abraham.

GEN. xxii. 10. And *Abraham* ſtretched forth his Hand, and took the Knife to ſlay his Son.

11. And the Angel of the *Lord* called unto him out of Heaven, and ſaid, *Abraham, Abraham.* And he ſaid, Here am I.

12. And he ſaid, Lay not thine Hand upon the Lad, neither do thou any Thing unto him: For now I know that thou feareſt God, ſeeing that thou haſt not withheld thy Son, thine only Son from me.

15. And

15. And the Angel of the *Lord* called unto *Abraham* out of Heaven, the ſecond Time.

16. And ſaid, By myſelf have I ſworn, ſaith the *Lord*, for becauſe thou haſt done this Thing, and haſt not withheld thy Son, thine only Son:

17. That in bleſſing I will bleſs thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy Seed as the Stars of the Heaven, and as the Sand which is upon the Sea Shore; and thy Seed ſhall poſſeſs the Gate of his Enemies.

18. And in thy Seed ſhall all the Nations of the Earth be bleſſed: Becauſe thou haſt obeyed my Voice.

Here God *declares, that in* Abraham's *Seed ſhall all the Families of the Earth be bleſſed: For out of his Seed* Chriſt *ſhould come, which is perform'd. And as through the Diſobedience of one Man Sin enter'd into the World, ſo through the Obedience of another came Righteouſneſs, which is* Chriſt, *our dear Redeemer: For he came to be a Light, to enlighten the* Gentiles, *and the Glory of God's People,* Iſrael: *And now he will enlighten the* Gentiles, *and glory in his People* Iſrael.

ISAIAH lx. 7. All the Flocks of *Kedar* ſhall be gather'd together unto thee, the Rams of *Nebaioth* ſhall miniſter unto thee: They ſhall come up with Acceptance on mine Altar, and I will glorify the Houſe of my Glory.

8. Who are theſe that fly as a Cloud, and as the Doves to their Windows?

9. Surely the Iſles ſhall wait for me, and the Ships of *Tarſhiſh* firſt, to bring thy Sons from far, their Silver and their Gold with them, unto the Name of the *Lord* thy *God:* And to the holy one of *Iſrael*, becauſe he hath glorified thee.

10. And the Sons of Strangers ſhall build up thy Walls, and their Kings ſhall miniſter unto thee:

thee: For in my Wrath I ſmote thee, but in my Favour have I had Mercy on thee.

Here we ſee God's *Promiſe to reſtore the true Religion at* Jeruſalem *again; for they will flock from all Parts of the World, to be inſtructed in the true Way of worſhipping* God.

15. Whereas thou haſt been forſaken and hated, ſo that no Man went through thee, I will make thee an eternal Excellency, a Joy of many Generations.

16. Thou ſhalt alſo ſuck the Milk of the *Gentiles*, and ſhalt ſuck the Breaſt of Kings, and thou ſhalt know that I the *Lord* am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty one of *Jacob*.

17. For Braſs I will bring Gold, and for Iron I will bring Silver, and for Wood Braſs, and for Stones Iron: I will alſo make thy Officers Peace, and thine Exactors Righteouſneſs.

18. Violence ſhall no more be heard in thy Land, Waſting nor Deſtruction within thy Borders; but thou ſhalt call thy Walls Salvation, and thy Gates Praiſe.

All this is near at hand, which will be a joyful Time to the whole World.

Hear what Joel *ſays*, Chap. iii. 1. For behold, in thoſe Days and in that Time, when I ſhall bring again the Captivity of *Judah* and *Jeruſalem*,

2. I will alſo gather all Nations, and will bring them down into the Valley of *Jehoſhaphat*, and will plead with them there for my People, and for my Heritage *Iſrael*, whom they have ſcattered among the Nations, and parted my Land.

Thus we ſee that God, *by the Mouth of ſeveral of his* Prophets, *declares the* reſtoring *the true Religion into* Jeruſalem *again. And if we cannot believe their Words, how do we own ourſelves to be* Chriſtians?

NUMB. xiii. 17. And *Moſes* ſent them to ſpy out the Land of *Canaan*, and ſaid unto them, Get you up this Way Southward, and go up into the Mountain:

18. And ſee the Land what it is, and the People that dwelleth therein, whether they be ſtrong or weak, few or many;

19. And what the Land is that they dwell in, whether it be good or bad; and what Cities they be that they dwell in, whether in Tents, or in ſtrong Holds;

20. And what the Land is, whether it be fat or lean, whether there be Wood therein or not. And be ye of good Courage, and bring of the Fruit of the Land. (Now the Time was the Time of the firſt ripe Grapes.)

23. And they came unto the Brook *Eſhcol*, and cut down from thence a Branch with one Cluſter of Grapes, and they bare it between two upon a Staff; and they brought of the Pomegranates, and of the Figs.

27. And they told him, and ſaid, We came unto the Land whither thou ſenteſt us, and ſurely it floweth with Milk and Honey; and this is the Fruit of it.

30. And *Caleb* ſtilled the People before *Moſes*, and ſaid, Let us go up at once, and poſſeſs it; for we are well able to overcome it.

NUMB. xiv. 6. And *Joſhua* the Son of *Nun*, and *Caleb* the Son of *Jephunneh*, which were of them that ſearched the Land, rent their Clothes.

7. And they ſpake unto all the Company of the Children of *Iſrael*, ſaying, The Land which we paſſed through to ſearch it, is an exceeding good Land.

8. If the *Lord* delight in us, then he will bring us into this Land, and give it us; a Land which floweth with Milk and Honey.

9. On-

9. Only rebel not ye againſt the *Lord*, neither fear ye the People of the Land; for they are Bread for us: Their Defence is departed from them, and the *Lord* is with us: Fear them not.

10. But all the Congregation bade ſtone them with Stones: And the Glory of the *Lord* appeared in the Tabernacle of the Congregation, before all the Children of *Iſrael*.

11. And the *Lord* ſaid unto *Moſes*, How long will this People provoke me? And how long will it be e'er they believe me, for all the Signs which I have ſhewed among them?

Here Moſes *cries out again*,

19. Pardon, I beſeech thee, the Iniquity of this People, according unto the Greatneſs of thy Mercy, and as thou haſt forgiven this People, from *Egypt*, even until now.

20. And the *Lord* ſaid, I have pardoned according to thy Word:

Here we ſee the great Goodneſs of God *towards the Children of* Iſrael. *For all he had ſhewn them ſo many of his great Deliverances, yet they murmured againſt him; ſo that they were often at the Brink of Deſtruction: Yet, through* Moſes's *Interceſſion, he ſtill pardoned them. But now there is no* Moſes *on Earth to make Interceſſion to* God *for the Sins of the preſent Times: Let all the World then repent in Sackcloth and Aſhes; for Wrath is gone out, the Plague of War is begun.*

21. But as truly as I live, all the Earth ſhall be filled with the Glory of the *Lord*.

28. Say unto them, As truly as I live, ſaith the *Lord*, as ye have ſpoken in mine Ears, ſo will I do to you:

29. Your Carcaſſes ſhall fall in this Wilderneſs; and all that were numbered of you, according to

your whole Number, from twenty Years old and upward, which have murmured againſt me,

30. Doubtleſs ye ſhall not come into the Land concerning which I ſware to make you dwell therein, ſave *Caleb* the Son of *Jephunneh*, and *Joſhua* the Son of *Nun*.

31. But your little ones, which ye ſaid ſhould be a Prey, them will I bring in, and they ſhall know the Land which ye have deſpiſed.

33. And your Children ſhall wander in the Wilderneſs forty Years, and bear your Whoredoms, until your Carcaſſes be waſted in the Wilderneſs.

37. Even thoſe Men that did bring up the evil Report upon the Land, died by the Plague before the *Lord*.

38. But *Joſhua* the Son of *Nun*, and *Caleb* the Son of *Jephunneh*, which were of the Men that went to ſearch the Land, lived ſtill.

41. And *Moſes* ſaid, Wherefore now do you tranſgreſs the Commandment of the *Lord?* but it ſhall not proſper.

42. Go not up, for the *Lord* is not among you; that ye be not ſmitten before your Enemies.

45. Then the *Amalekites* came down, and the *Canaanites* which dwelt in that Hill, and ſmote them, and diſcomfited them, even unto *Hormah*.

Here we find that ten *of the* twelve *that were ſent to ſearch the Land, brought an* evil *Report of that* good *Land which* God *had promiſed* Abraham, *to give it to him and to his Seed for ever. Thus the Children of* Iſrael *would rather believe thoſe wicked Men than* God's *Word, and ſo* God *deſtroyed them in his Wrath.*

Hear what is written in Iſaiah, *Chap.* xlii.

8. I am the *Lord*, that is my Name, and my Glory will I not give to another, neither my Praiſe to graven Images.

17. They

17. They ſhall be turned back, they ſhall be greatly aſhamed that truſt in graven Images, that ſay to the molten Images, Ye are our Gods.

Here God *ſtill ſhews his Diſpleaſure againſt all falſe Worſhip; and thoſe People that will not repent of worſhipping any God but the true* God, *will find his Wrath poured out upon them in a terrible Manner, now in this preſent Age.*

ISAIAH lxvi. 10. Rejoice ye with *Jeruſalem*, and be glad with her, all ye that love her: Rejoice for Joy with her, all ye that mourn for her:

11. That ye may ſuck, and be ſatisfied with the Breaſts of her Conſolations: That ye may milk out, and be delighted with the Abundance of her Glory.

12. For thus ſaith the *Lord*, Behold I will extend Peace to her like a River, and the Glory of the *Gentiles* like a flowing Stream: Then ſhall ye ſuck, ye ſhall be borne upon her Sides, and be dandled upon her Knees.

13. As one whom his Mother comforteth, ſo will I comfort you: And ye ſhall be comforted in *Jeruſalem*.

14. And when ye ſee this, your Heart ſhall rejoice, and your Bones ſhall flouriſh like an Herb: And the Hand of the *Lord* ſhall be known towards his Servants, and his Indignation towards his Enemies.

Here God *plainly ſhews the glorious Deliverance to his* true Church *and* choſen People, *the like to which has never yet been.*

18. For I know their Works and their Thoughts: It ſhall come, that I will gather all Nations and Tongues, and they ſhall come and ſee my Glory.

20. And they ſhall bring all your Brethren for an Offering unto the *Lord*, out of all Nations, upon Horſes, and in Chariots, and in Litters, and

upon Mules, and upon ſwift Beaſts, to my holy Mountain *Jeruſalem*, ſaith the *Lord*, as the Children of *Iſrael* bring an Offering in a clean Veſſel, into the Houſe of the *Lord*.

Exod. vii. 8. And the *Lord* ſpake unto *Moſes*, and unto *Aaron*, ſaying,

9. When *Pharaoh* ſhall ſpeak unto you, ſaying, Shew a Miracle for you: Then thou ſhalt ſay unto *Aaron*, Take thy Rod, and caſt it before *Pharaoh*, and it ſhall become a Serpent.

10. And *Moſes* and *Aaron* went in unto *Pharaoh*, and they did ſo as the *Lord* commanded: And *Aaron* caſt down his Rod before *Pharaoh*, and before his Servants, and it became a Serpent.

11. Then *Pharaoh* alſo called the Wiſe-men, and the Sorcerers: Now the Magicians of *Egypt*, they alſo did in like Manner with their Enchantments.

12. For they caſt down every Man his Rod, and they became Serpents; but *Aaron*'s Rod ſwallowed up their Rods.

And now Aaron's Rod *is budded and bloſſomed, and will very ſoon bring forth* ripe Almonds, *which is the Fruit of the* Goſpel, *to great Perfection. At* Chriſt's *Birth*, Aaron's Rod *budded, and at his Reſurrection it bloſſom'd; and now it will bring forth* ripe Almonds: *For the* Proteſtant *People will overcome the* Popiſh *People, and* all Religions *will become* one *in all the Earth. Then will the* Goſpel *of* Chriſt *flouriſh throughout the whole World, and that is bringing forth* ripe Almonds; *for the* Pope *and the Popiſh Religion will be deſtroyed now, in a very, very ſhort Time, even within the Space of* ſeven *Years.*

Isaiah lxv. 16. That he who bleſſeth himſelf in the Earth, ſhall bleſs himſelf in the God of Truth,

Truth, and he that ſweareth in the Earth, ſhall ſwear by the God of Truth; becauſe the former Troubles are forgotten, and becauſe they are hid from mine Eyes.

17. For behold I create new Heavens, and a new Earth: And the former ſhall not be remember'd, nor come into Mind.

18. But be you glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: For behold, I create *Jeruſalem* a Rejoicing, and her People a Joy.

19. And I will rejoice in *Jeruſalem*, and joy in my People, and the Voice of weeping ſhall be no more heard in her, nor the Voice of crying.

20. There ſhall be no more thence an Infant of Days, nor an old Man that hath not filled his Days: For the Child ſhall die an hundred Years old, but the Sinner being an hundred Years old, ſhall be accurſed.

21. And they ſhall build Houſes, and inhabit them; and they ſhall plant Vineyards, and eat the Fruit of them.

22. They ſhall not build, and another inhabit; they ſhall not plant, and another eat: For as the Days of a Tree are the Days of my People, and mine Elect ſhall long enjoy the Work of their Hands.

23. They ſhall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for Trouble: For they are the Seed of the Bleſſed of the *Lord*, and their Offſpring with them.

24. And it ſhall come to paſs, that before they call, I will anſwer, and whiles they are yet ſpeaking, I will hear.

25. The Wolf and the Lamb ſhall feed together, and the Lion ſhall eat Straw like the Bullock: And Duſt ſhall be the Serpent's Meat.

They

They ſhall not hurt nor deſtroy in all my holy Mountain, ſaith the *Lord*.

You ſee what Encouragement Iſaiah *gives, and not to the* Jews *only, but to all the World: For as there ſhall be a* Thouſand *Years of Peace on Earth, after the* Reſtoration, *ſo likewiſe there ſhall be as long a Time of Plenty and Health: People ſhall live to a greater Number of Years than they had done for many Generations paſt; nay, they ſhall forget that there ever was ſuch an unhappy Time as they preſent.*

NUMB. XV. 26. And it ſhall be forgiven all the Congregation of the Children of *Iſrael*, and the Stranger that ſojourneth among them; ſeeing all the People were in Ignorance.

Now the Pope *and the* Popiſh Prieſts *and* Jeſuits *keep the People in* Ignorance, *by keeping the* Scriptures *in an* unknown *Tongue, and their Prayers too: But when the* Goſpel *ſhall be reſtored to the Land of* Iſrael *again, then the People will underſtand the Word of* God, *and the publick Worſhip; for both will be in their* own Language. *Thoſe that are kept in Ignorance, by not hearing in their own Language, have the leſs Sin; but the* Pope *and his wicked Crew have the more Sin to anſwer for, in keeping them in Darkneſs.*

ZECHARIAH viii. 3. Thus ſaith the *Lord*, I am returned unto *Zion*, and will dwell in the Midſt of *Jeruſalem*, and *Jeruſalem* ſhall be called a City of Truth; and the Mountain of the *Lord* of Hoſts, the Holy Mountain.

4. Thus ſaith the *Lord* of Hoſts, There ſhall yet old Men and old Women dwell in the Streets of *Jeruſalem*, and every Man with his Staff in his Hand for very Age.

5. And the Streets of the City ſhall be full of Boys and Girls playing in the Streets thereof.

6. Thus

6. Thus ſaith the *Lord* of Hoſts, If it be marvellous in the Eyes of the Remnant of this People in theſe Days, ſhould it alſo be marvellous in mine Eyes? ſaith the *Lord* of Hoſts.

Now the Warning *that I have* long *given the* Miniſters of State *of this* War, *did not cauſe them to take thoſe Meaſures that I propoſed, 'till it was* almoſt too late; *ſo that when they began to ſee the* Danger *come upon them, they took a* little Care.

Hear what the Prophet Micah *ſaith, Chap.* iv.

11. Now alſo many Nations are gathered againſt thee, that ſay, Let her be defiled, and let our Eye look upon *Zion*.

12. But they know not the Thoughts of the *Lord*, neither underſtand they his Counſel: For he ſhall gather them as the Sheaves into the Floor.

13. Ariſe and threſh, O Daughter of *Zion*: For I will make thine Horn Iron, and I will make thy Hoofs Braſs, and thou ſhalt beat in Pieces many People: And I will conſecrate their Gain unto the *Lord*, and their Subſtance unto the Lord of the whole Earth.

And now many Popiſh *Armies are gathered together againſt the* Proteſtant *Armies, and they boaſt themſelves as though they were ſure they ſhould* overcome *them; but they know nothing of the great Deliverance that* God *will ſhew to his Church and choſen People: For the* Popiſh *Armies will be ſmaſhed in Pieces this War, before it is ended; and then all the Riches of their Churches will be conſecrated to the Uſe of* Chriſt's *true Church.*

Ezekiel xxxvii. 21. And ſay unto them, Thus ſaith the *Lord* God, Behold, I will take the Children of *Iſrael* from among the Heathen whither they be gone, and will gather them on every Side, and bring them into their own Land.

22. And

22. And I will make them one Nation in the Land upon the Monntains of *Iſrael*, and one King ſhall be King to them all: And they ſhall be no more two Nations, neither ſhall they be divided into two Kingdoms any more at all.

The Meaning of making them one *Nation is, that the* Jews *and* Gentiles *ſhall be united into* one *Religion*; *and* one *King ſhall be King over them, which is* Chriſt; *for he ſhall be King to all the Earth*; *then ſhall all the Earth worſhip him in Spirit and in Truth.*

Acts xiii. 6. And when they had gone through the Iſle unto *Paphos*, they found a certain Sorcerer, a falſe Prophet, a *Jew*, whoſe Name was *Barjeſus*:

7. Which was with the Deputy of the Country, *Sergius Paulus*, a prudent Man; who called for *Barnabas* and *Saul*, and deſired to hear the Word of God.

8. But *Elymas* the Sorcerer (for ſo is his Name by Interpretation) withſtood them, ſeeking to turn away the Deputy from the Faith.

Here we ſee how ſubtilly the Devil *employs his Inſtruments to delude the World, and to keep them in the Way to Deſtruction: But* Chriſt's *Works will flouriſh more now in this preſent Age, than ever they did.*

9. Then *Saul* (who alſo is called *Paul*) filled with the Holy Ghoſt, ſet his Eyes on him,

10. And ſaid, O full of all Subtilty and all Miſchief, thou Child of the Devil, thou Enemy of all Righteouſneſs, wilt thou not ceaſe to pervert the right Ways of the *Lord*?

11. And now behold, the Hand of the *Lord* is upon thee, and thou ſhalt be blind, not ſeeing the Sun for a Seaſon. And immediately there fell on him

him a Midſt and a Darkneſs; and he went about ſeeking ſome to lead him by the Hand.

12. Then the Deputy, when he ſaw what was done, believed, being aſtoniſhed at the Doctrine of the *Lord*.

Here we may ſee how glorioufly the Word of God *began to flouriſh in that Part of the World. And now, in a ſmall Space of Time, it will flouriſh all over the Earth, in a moſt glorious Manner; for the Works of the* Devil *will be deſtroyed.*

21. And afterward they deſired a King: And God gave unto them *Saul* the Son of *Cis*, a Man of the Tribe of *Benjamin*, by the Space of forty Years.

22. And when he had removed him, he raiſed up unto them *David* to be their King; to whom alſo he gave Teſtimony, and ſaid, I have found *David* the Son of *Jeſſe*, a Man after mine own Heart, which ſhall fulfil all my Will.

23. Of this Man's Seed hath *God*, according to his Promiſe, raiſed unto *Iſrael* a Saviour, *Jeſus*:

Here God *declares to the Children of* Iſrael, *that he had found a Man after his own Heart, which was* David, *which was to fulfil his Will. Now, the Meaning of* fulfilling his Will, *was, that he ſhould worſhip no God but himſelf, which is the* true God; *and plainly declares, that he ſhould fulfil his Will, which was to deſtroy* Idolatry; *for* God *did put it in his Heart to deſtroy all* falſe *Worſhip, for there never was a Man that deſtroyed* Idolatry *ſo much as* David *did*; *and* God *bleſſed him for it, and made all the World fear him: And ſo will* God *bleſs all thoſe that do deſtroy falſe Worſhip.*

27. For they that dwell at *Jeruſalem*, and their Rulers, becauſe they knew him not, nor yet the Voices of the Prophets which are read every Sab-

bath-Day, they have fulfill'd them in condemning him.

And although the Voices of the Prophets *are read in our Churches, yet there are a great many People that run after* falſe Worſhip; *which is no better than crucifying* Chriſt *again.*

28. And though they found no Cauſe of Death in him, yet deſir'd they *Pilate* that he ſhould be ſlain.

2 Pet. iii. 7. But the Heavens and the Earth which are now, by the ſame Word are kept in Store, reſerv'd unto Fire againſt the Day of Judgment, and Perdition of ungodly Men.

8. But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one Thing, that one Day is with the *Lord* as a thouſand Years, and a thouſand Years as one Day.

9. The *Lord* is not ſlack concerning his Promiſe, (as ſome Men count Slackneſs) but is long ſuffering to us-ward, not willing that any ſhould periſh, but that all ſhould come to Repentance.

10. But the Day of the Lord will come as a Thief in the Night, in which the Heavens ſhall paſs away with a great Noiſe, and the Elements ſhall melt with fervent Heat, the Earth alſo and the Works that are therein ſhall be burnt up.

11. Seeing then that all theſe Things ſhall be diſſolved, what manner of Perſons ought ye to be in all holy Converſation and Godlineſs,

12. Looking for and haſting unto the coming of the Day of God, wherein the Heavens being on Fire ſhall be diſſolved, and the Elements ſhall melt with fervent Heat?

14. Wherefore, beloved, ſeeing that ye look for ſuch Things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in Peace, without Spot, and blameleſs.

Hear what is written in the 2d Chapter of Isaiah.

20. In

20. In that Day a Man ſhall caſt his Idols of Silver, and his Idols of Gold, which they made, each one for himſelf to worſhip, to the Moles, and to the Bats:

21. To go into the Clefts of the Rocks, and into the Tops of the ragged Rocks, for fear of the *Lord*, and for the Glory of his Majeſty, when he ariſeth to ſhake terribly the Earth.

Here we may plainly ſee what a frightful Condition thoſe People will be in, when God's *Wrath ſhall be poured out againſt thoſe that follow any* falſe Worſhip. *Therefore thoſe that will be ſo wiſe as to forſake their* Idolatry, *may be ſure that* God *will ſhew* Mercy *to them.*

2 PET. iii. 17. Ye therefore, beloved, ſeeing ye know theſe Things before, beware leſt ye alſo being led away with the Error of the Wicked, fall from your own Steadfaſtneſs.

18. But grow in Grace, and in the Knowledge of our Lord and Saviour *Jeſus Chriſt*: To him be Glory both now and for ever. *Amen.*

FINIS.